

Libraries

(A Continuation of Public Libraries)

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Failure, Whose Fault, Trustee or Librarian?¹

O. R. Howard Thomson, James V. Brown library, Williamsport, Pa.

Service is the only justification for libraries. As memorials to dead men, as baits dangled before prospective settlers by chambers of commerce, they are, it must be admitted, standard equipment; yet if they are not adequate to the just needs of the communities in which they are situated, tombstones and silence were better. Inadequate, they constitute a reflection on the dear departed, they class the go-getting boards of trade with the venders of \$15 vacuum cleaners.

Should you ask almost any librarian whether he is satisfied with the work his institution is doing, he will reply, "Had I the money, there is little limit to the help we could give the people." Should you put the same question to almost any trustee, he will counter—"Pretty well—every year we are lending more books and increasing our stock. We might do more; but, financially the city is doing about all it can. It's got a sewer problem and an ambitious paving program; then, too, the schools eat up a lot of money. There's a limit to what you can tax people."

Both answers reveal dissatisfaction tho of different degrees; both recognize that the reason the library is not rendering the aid it might, is primarily financial.

A few statistics may clarify the situation and aid us in placing the blame for

the majority of libraries being failures. And failures the majority of libraries must be rated if their performance is compared with their possibilities; their inefficiency set against the adequacy of the public schools. Libraries meet 50 per cent of the needs of 50 per cent of their legitimate clientele; schools, save in rare instances, 100 per cent of the needs of 100 per cent of their school-age population.

When Dr Bowerman first commenced to compile his now famous annual table of expenditures of libraries in the larger cities of the United States, the average expenditure per annum per capita was 28 cents; today it is nearly 70 cents. Whether this advance in purchasing power of something like 30 per cent is due chiefly to the librarian or trustee, is a debatable question. More probably than not it was due primarily to neither, but to a demand that neither the librarian nor trustee could stop. The library idea, like Topsy, "jest grewed."

The latest U. S. census figures show that the cities of the United States, of 30,000 and over population, spend on public libraries one to three cents for every dollar they spend on schools. In Williamsport, the total municipal and school receipts in 1924 were about one and one quarter million dollars; the library received roughly \$7000. And considering that the schools serve but one-sixth of the population while the legiti-

¹ Read before a Pennsylvania regional meeting at Bucknell University and published by request of trustees.

mate library field is four to five times greater, the jest is without a peer. At the bald statement, Peacock's Mr Too-Bad's lips would break into a smile. Even the parsimonious Mr Coolidge has signed bills increasing the appropriation for the Library of Congress and the salary of the librarian has been advanced.

How about Pennsylvania? The American Library Association is on record that nothing like adequate library service can be rendered for less than \$1 per annum per capita. Yet in cities of this state of 5000 and over population, but three libraries receive \$1 or over, only 16 receive over 60 cents, 32 less than 30 cents.

Let me for a moment shift to another angle. Quite respectable per capita circulations are being recorded. Some of these are due to pace-making libraries buying books and depositing them in the schools after which the school teachers order each pupil to take home one a week; others are due to purchase of large quantities of cheap fiction. If quantity, not quality, of circulation is to be accepted by trustees as a criterion, there are librarians who know how to get it. It is amazing what the purchase of even 500 "reprints" of Zane Grey and Oliver Curwood, Frank Packard, Eleanor Porter and Mrs Richmond will do. Mr Marx, of Easton, once pointed out that if he could secure 200 new readers each of whom would absorb three novels a week, his circulation for the year would increase 30,000!

I am not belittling either school deposits in which I believe, or the supplying of fiction for the radio-moving picture minds. I am only pointing out that thru recorded circulation growths, both librarians and trustees are sometimes led to think that they are increasing real library service when at best they are reducing the sale of the *Red Book* and *Snappy Stories*.

Probably the best test of a library would be to ask a number of engineers and mechanics, school teachers and ministers, bond salesmen and department-store window-dressers, amateurs of the radio, photograph and antique, with a few students of the fine arts, of gardening, of manners and customs in foreign lands thrown in for good measure, if the library was adequate to their needs. If 80 per cent replied in the affirmative, a dinner given by the trustees to the staff would be indicated. They are richer than we. If the reply were in the negative, the securing of greater income would be shown to be imperative.

For money is the one thing without which personal service and books cannot be bought. Authoritative and illuminating books cannot be purchased for 75 cents apiece; neither can college bred, technically trained librarians, with executive ability, be hired for \$1500 to \$2500 a year. Some are, I admit; but where they are, they are victims of the sweating system equally with the tenement dwellers to whom Potash and Perlmutter of this world were, before the activities of the Consumers' League, accustomed to send their coats and cloaks for finishing.

By "failure," as applied to libraries, I think thru the desultory remarks I have made, you will see that I have in mind not only libraries whose per capita circulations are low—say less than four volumes per annum per capita—but also libraries whose high per capital circulations are obtained solely thru cheap books and "Supplementary School Readers" and libraries whose reference and other advisory service is entrusted to persons of little training and circumscribed learning. Presuming that the librarian is a person of ability and education; whose fault is it that the library does not translate into fact the ideals that he holds? His or the trustees'?

The very form of the question prophesies the answer. In nine out of ten cases, the trustee. He does not provide the essential sinews of war. In the tenth case, that in which the fault lies with the librarian, the trustee has a remedy in his hand; he can release or demote him; in either case putting a more competent person in charge.

Like all sweeping assertions, this statement needs modification. There are cases where the ideals of the trustees are ahead of those of the librarian; to their onus of securing funds they have added the burden of carrying inferior personnel more likely than not inherited from their immediate predecessors. The library in action lacks the vital spark. Citizens making casual contact with it are not thereby stimulated to a conviction either of its value or its latent possibilities.

Again, against the librarian not infrequently must lodge the charge of inability to sell the library idea to his own trustees. Consideration, kind words, the possession of one of the most delightful occupations, smother the fire that else had flamed. "If my Board is satisfied, need I worry? And anyway are we not doing better than Villagetown, 25 miles to the east of us?" Some old Pennsylvanian librarian will ask if you do not remember the time Mr MacLeod was president of the Reading railroad and leased the New Jersey Central. What happened? He was shown that he was making the road bigger than the higher up money interests in it wanted. They had capital in other roads that the N. J. C. lease jeopardized. So MacLeod was out of a job—he became president of a 2x4 feeder. Who knows what he was when he died?

I know of a librarian in a city of 50,000 who recently sounded his trustees on the purchase of the Oxford dictionary. It should not have been necessary. But, "Three hundred dollars for a single book is too much money," said one of the ex-officio members of the Board. "Re-

member we are spending the tax-payers' money!" Tho the library still lacks the dictionary, the librarian still holds his job.

Whether in a university, a railroad, a bank, a department store, or a library, the "higher ups" decide. If they did not, they would be negligent. The most important task of a Library executive is to sell the library idea to his Board; frequently it is also his most difficult task; the most important task of a library trustee, after the idea has been sold him, is to secure the money to put the idea into effect. Which is the worse, the time serving executive or the trouble dodging trustee, no man can say. Together they are responsible for two-thirds of the mausoleums that dot the land that under braver conditions had been libraries.

The difficulties of the discussion of the trustee responsible for failure from this point on, are, to one, conscious as I am, of the unselfishness and earnestness of the majority of trustees, positively terrifying. Any statement that may be made can be but a half truth; one in need of both extension and qualification. With the librarian responsible for failure, there is no real problem—release or demotion coupled with substitution or supercedence is an absolute cure.

But the trustee cannot be discharged nor demoted—certainly not by the librarian. Even so strong a man as Woodrow Wilson met defeat at the hands of the Princeton higher-ups. And for the most part, to add to the difficulty, trustees, when not elected for life by a self-perpetuating board, are appointed by the mayor, by councils or by the school board. Shall the appointee of the City Fathers denounce his makers as niggards; or the creature of a school board seek to disturb the established ratio of one cent to one dollar? Personally, I have had the honor to know and serve men holding office thru such sources who have done just these things; who have done them so vigorously that the major-

ities they registered at the polls to which they were compelled to carry their fights, startled even themselves. Honor to whom honor is due—these men were not satisfied to get by without fuss; these men were not satisfied if only the complaints were not very numerous. They were men whose attitude was expressed in the phrase—"Well, run the plant right or shut it up." They were interested, not in learning how much this, that, or the other city spent; they desired only to know what amount was necessary to render the aid to students, mechanics, men and women of all sorts and conditions, that they should receive.

Such men, the only kind of men who are justified in accepting the responsibility of a trusteeship of a public library, are all too rare. For the most part, trustees belong to one of the groups of "imponderables" about which we heard so much during the war.

That is, they are existent powers that must be accepted. They are not to be destroyed, even were their destruction desirable—which it is not. So the solution of the problem of the trustees who are responsible for failure lies in the hands of the trustees themselves or nowhere at all.

If the majority of any Board believe the advancement of the library to be of greater importance than the advance of the schools, the Y. M. and Y. W., the Art gallery, the Community Music course and the Rotary club, the library will not be outdistanced by these competitors for civic advancement. But if the Board is composed exclusively of say the respective presidents of the school board, Y. M., Y. W., the Art gallery, the Community Music course and the Rotary club, to each it will be a poor relation rather than his first born; it will probably advance, it will hardly become a star of the first magnitude. It will, it might be added, be in no better case if the Board is composed wholly of believers in the primacy of the library idea,

unless these believers are men and women of repute and daring—men and women whose appeal to the public, should it be necessary, over the heads of city officials, over the adherents of the good-enough, over the cheerers of politico-professional economists, will be heeded.

I use the word, "daring," with premeditation. And the daring that I have in mind is the courage to put faith in the library idea to the acid test of the polls if necessary, not once, not twice, but successively till the library income is at least equal to the minimum suggested by the American Library Association, that is, "one dollar per annum per capita."

If there is any trustee who believes such an expenditure is unwarranted, let him resign and make place for some one of wider vision. If there is any trustee who believes that while neighboring cities can increase their taxes while his cannot, let him resign. If there is any trustee, who is fearful that the library may become a bit too big or too good for a city of the size in which it is located, let him also resign. Lastly, since reality must be faced, if there is any trustee, who, tho chafing at the delay, believes that the necessary increase to make the income one dollar per annum per capita must be obtained by steps, let him, if he does not resign, arrange for the campaign for the first step immediately. And having gained the first step let him watch like a hawk that he may leap to take advantage of the first favorable moment to launch a second campaign for the second step.

The amendments made to the Pennsylvania library code recently make that document today one sufficient to prevent any library offering as an excuse for its failure, lack of funds. Against the protests of councils, school boards and politicians, the question of library support can be put directly up to the people. A petition signed by three per cent of the voters is a mandamus for a referendum.

Any efficiently administered library, controlled by a courageous, believing Board, the members of which accept office not as a token of honor, but as a bugle blast to lead the fight till the objective is gained, can win any election at any time.

May I remind you that an eminent pugilist, was on a historic sporting occasion, knocked out of the ring by a chance blow; he climbed back and put his opponent down for the count of ten. Only librarians who have the same courage to risk their titles; only trustees who are

fibered with the same conviction of their power to overcome all opposition, have the right to sit at the desk or round the table. Given such librarians and such trustees, there can be no allotting of the blame for failure—for failure will not occur.

But since failure—in the sense that I use the word, is the order, not the exception, it behooves librarian and trustee alike to take stock of themselves—

The wide fields stretch to flaming horizons

That challenge tedious man;
Then set your lips against the bugle's mouth
And dare the larger plan.

The Mystery Story in the Hospital¹

Leslie T. Little, librarian of the Public library, Waltham, Mass.

... First of all, any one buying detective stories or recommending them to readers should not fail to read the introduction to Willard Huntington Wright's (S. S. Van Dine's) Great detective stories and the article, The Professor and the detective, by Marjorie H. Nicolson in the *Atlantic Monthly*, April, 1929. The former gives a good idea of the origin of this distinctly modern type of fiction and its development to the present day, and a pretty sound analysis of what the standards of such a story should be. It is amusing to note that the author of the Philo Vance stories, then still in hiding, was bound to mention his own works favorably as they illustrate his contentions and because their omission would have given him away immediately.*

The latter article is a sympathetic analysis of the appeal of the detective story to a professor of English, and would seem to indicate that perhaps we readers are not so hopeless after all, and furthermore, that there are some good reasons

why presidents, premiers, cabinet ministers, preachers, doctors, lawyers and men of business find such books a source of escape from daily cares. It might be of interest to remark here that among those who have turned their hand to mystery stories are such literary personages as Poe, Dickens, Stevenson, Eden Phillpotts, A. E. W. Mason, Israel Zangwill, Arnold Bennett, Alice Brown, G. K. Chesterton, Lord Charnwood and Archibald Marshall, and also William H. Gillette, the actor, Ronald Knox, a prominent English priest, and one librarian, Burton L. Stevenson, of "Home Book of Verse" fame.

The hospital library presents one peculiar problem in that there are often patients whose physical and mental states render them susceptible to dangerous suggestions and to intense excitement which would not harm the ordinary reader. Books which contain doctors and nurses as villains, which present repulsive medical details, deaths by poison, suicides, and incidents connected with insanity and the use of drugs, would need to be segregated from many patients. In general, stories which justify homicide, suicide and other crimes and which pre-

¹Read before the Hospital Libraries round table, Washington, D. C., May 13-18, 1929.

*Another interesting article by S. S. Van Dine in the *American Magazine*, September, 1928, has a supplement of 20 rules for detective stories. Most of these rules are fundamentally sound tho a few might seem to narrow the field unduly and make the detective novel too formal and stereotyped.

sent to younger readers, heroes who, as thieves, gunmen or members of gangs to obtain wealth or revenge by extra-legal methods, lead glamorous, adventurous existences, do more actual harm in young lives than any of the bad novels that are being banned so rigorously. A few individual books to be avoided and some authors whose books should be examined rather carefully before buying, might be mentioned:

Connington, *Death at Swathling Court* and *Phillpotts' Jigsaw* (homicide justified). Eberhart, *Patient in Room 18* (death and terror in hospital surroundings).

Hext, *Who killed Cock Robin?* (lingering death by poison).

Hornung, *Raffles*; Vance, *Lone Wolf* stories; Packard, *Jimmie Dale* stories; Landon, *Gray Phantom* stories (criminal heroes).

Beeding's and Keeler's stories (largely concerned with insanity and dope).

Anthony Wynne's stories (repulsive medical details).

Wallace (some stories present doctors experimenting on human beings and producing abnormal half-human creatures).

Oppenheim (Some books are extremely unethical—Harvey Gerrard's crime, Mr Billingham, the Marquis and Madelon).

Many of these, like many western stories, deliberately encourage crime by painting falsely enticing pictures of the careers of bandits and gunmen, and should, I think, be kept out of the hands of impressionable young people.

What to look for and what to avoid in buying mystery stories. The most obvious faults in many of the books published are: Cheap, sloppy writing; dullness and verbosity; hackneyed plots and situations; and crudity in plot details. Conversely, one should look for a well-told story with some originality. It should above all be convincing, it should play fair with the reader and show intelligence and ingenuity in revealing and concealing events up to the denouement. It is vain for an author to pad out a thin plot with brilliant conversation and a lugged-in love story: it is equally vain to multiply and heap up crimes and escapes until the reader is bewildered

and his intelligence insulted by the mass of improbabilities. It is possible, however, for a writer to use most improbable situations and yet make a thoroly convincing story. Defoe was of course a master of this art and in modern adventure-mystery stories, John Buchan, Erskine Childers (in *The Riddle of the sands*) and Dornford Yates (in *Blind corner* and *Perishable goods*) are recommended as examples of the ability to give an extravagant plot a vivid sense of reality thru what Wright calls "unadorned verisimilitude." From the points of view of skilful presentation of mystery, originality and convincing solution of complex problems, Crofts, Phillpotts, Knox and Freeman stand pretty near the head of the list, and I should claim a very high place for Mason's *House of the arrow*. Good mystery novels are as unusual as good novels of any other type, and a library that desires the best among the new books should have a reviewer with sensitive tastes and a wide enough background in reading mystery stories to afford a basis for comparison. The English have taken this form of story more seriously than we have and so far have produced most of the outstanding books.

Here are a few situations which should arouse suspicion immediately, as they have been used so often as to be worn rather threadbare:

The bloody trail of the priceless ruby stolen from the eye of an Indian idol; the house party murder in which each individual (including the servants) has a motive and the opportunity to kill the victim and in which the crime is finally pinned on the most obviously innocent person; the house of disappearances, where mysterious noises and apparitions occur—hidden passages are sure to be revealed; the murder in the locked room—the victim could not have committed suicide and no one could have had access to him; the stolen chemical formula,

usually a poison or explosive which some enemy government would use to destroy the rest of the world; stolen government plans of forts, or some new form of airplane; the puzzle or freak will; the gang of international crooks, headed by a master mind who usually turns out to be a crippled philanthropist; the detective on holiday; the war of revenge on civilization; and innumerable plots involving the smuggling of dope and gems.

All this is preliminary to offering a list of stories for recommended purchase. It goes outside the realm of detective stories and in some cases trespasses on that of adventure stories, and the choice was somewhat determined by the necessity of including as many reprints as possible. It is built up on the theory that there are three somewhat distinct types of readers and types of books which correspond. In the first class "The problem's the thing." The solution of a mystery requires the active participation of the reader. The story may or may not be exciting in plot, but it is interesting to one who likes to pit his skill against that of the author, as described in the *Atlantic Monthly* article. This is the high-brow type of mystery story. The second division includes stories of action, the main interest of which is in exciting situations rather than the solving of the intellectual problems. The third and smallest group is for those readers who have little patience for the painstaking game of tracing clues and analyzing situations and characters, and who do not like the horrors or intensities of excitement of stories of the second class. What they want is a highly romantic story—a little mystery for flavor, a few exciting incidents spiced with humor, and a definite love interest.

These are but arbitrary classifications, which pretend to show only tendencies, for neither readers nor books fit so closely into any scheme. Moreover, some writers like Mary Roberts Rinehart, John Buchan and Earl Derr Biggers

seem to make a universal appeal. It is not a fool-proof list. No two people could agree on any long list. Books may have been left out which are "masterpieces" and others included that, to some, are dull or trashy. Some of the most widely advertised authors are omitted because they seem to me crude, mediocre and unconvincing. Their books are turned out by the wholesale, are all very much alike, and most of them employ the old worn-out "gags." Then, of course, I have not read all the books published, nor remembered all that I have read. Many other stories by the more popular authors, such as Fletcher, might well have been substituted or added. On the whole, however, it is hoped that this selection will meet average tastes and will prove useful until a better list appears.

List of hospital stories

- Doyle Hound of the Baskervilles r
- 4 vols. Sherlock Holmes stories r
- Leroux Mystery of the yellow room r
- Perfume of the lady in black r
- Brock Deductions of Colonel Gore *
- Colonel Gore's second case *
- Slip carriage mystery *
- Stoke silver case *
- Childers Riddle of the sands Eng.*
- Knox Viaduct murder *
- Three taps *
- Footsteps at the lock Eng.*
- Sayers Unpleasantness at the Bellona Club
- Lord Peter views the body
- Dawson Pedigree
- Stoker Mystery of the sea **op
- Martin Death of the claimant *
- Phillpotts Voice from the dark *
- Red Redmaynes *
- Grey room
- Propper Strange disappearance of Mary Young
- Mason House of the arrow *
- At the Villa Rose
- No other tiger
- Christie Poirot investigates
- Murder on the links r
- Mysterious affair at Styles r
- Rhode Ellerby case r
- MacDonald Rasp r
- Drake Ocean sleuth op

r—Grosset & Dunlap and Burt reprints
 op—Out of print
 Eng.—May be bought in England
 *—Recommended especially
 **—Contains a remarkable essay on the Baconian bi-literal cipher

- Hext Monster *
 —Thing at their heel
 Fielding Eames-Erskine case r
 —Footsteps that stopped r
 Markham Death in the dusk *
 Futrelle Problem of Cell 13 *
 Hart Bellamy trial r
 Chesterton Four vols. of Father Brown stories
 Bailey Mr Fortune's practice
 —Mr Fortune's trials
 —Mr Fortune, Please
 Walling Murder at the keyhole *
 Crofts Starvel Hollow tragedy r*
 —Cheyene mystery r
 —Inspector French's greatest case r*
 —Groote Park murder
 —Pit-Prop syndicate *
 —Cask
 —Sea mystery *
 —Ponson case
 Van Dine Benson murder case r
 —Canary murder case r
 Scott Black stamp r*
 Moffett Through the wall r*
 —Seine mystery r
 Freeman Shadow of the wolf r*
 —Puzzle lock r*
 —Singing bone r*
 —D'Arblay mystery r
 —Magic casket
 —Red thumb mark r
 —Mystery of Angelina Frood r
 —Certain Dr Thorndike *
 —Blue scarab
 —Thief in the night
 —Cat's eye
 Wright Great detective stories (Anthology)

II

- Fletcher—Scarhaven keep
 —Raynor-slade amalgamation
 —Mazoroff mystery r
 —Middle Temple murder r
 —Charing Cross mystery
 —House in Tuesday Market
 Williams Three of clubs r
 —Mr Ramosi r
 —Key Man r
 Biggers Chinese parrot r*
 —Fifty candles r
 —Seven keys to Baldpate r
 —Behind that curtain
 Brown Josselyn takes a hand *
 MacHarg & Balmer Indian drum r
 —Blind man's eyes
 Oppenheim Great impersonation r
 —Lost ambassador
 —Seven conundrums
 —Peter Ruff and the double four r
 —Golden best r
 Burr Great house in the park *
 —West of the moon
 —Palludia

- Tracy Black cat r
 —Mysterious disappearance r
 —Passing of Charles Lanson r
 —Token r
 Buchan Greenmantle *
 —Mr Standfast *
 —Thirty-nine steps *
 —Three hostages *
 —Huntingtower *
 Yates Blind corner *
 —Perishable goods *
 Clouston Man from the clouds Eng.*
 Dejeans Romance of a million dollars r*
 Farjeon No. 17 r
 —Man called Z r
 Wallace Black abbot r
 —Terror keep r
 —Daffodil murder
 —Green archer r
 —Sinister man r
 Muir Third warning r*
 Rinehart Man in lower ten r
 —Window at the White Cat r
 —Circular staircase r
 —After house
 —Bat r
 Vance Brass bowl r
 Ferguson Man in the dark r
 —Stealthy terror
 Regis Copper house *
 Smith Porto Bello gold r*
 —Treasurer of the Bucoleon *
 Keverne Carteret's cure
 —Havering plot
 Goodwin Avenger
 Drake WO2 *
 Packard Locked book r
 —Red ledger r
 —Four stragglers r
 Pertwee Men of affairs r
 Leroux Phantom of the opera r*
 White & Adams Mystery *

III

- Webster Corbin necklace r
 —Sealed trunk
 —Clock strikes two
 Miller Colfax bookplate *
 Reynolds Lost discovery r
 Wentworth Astonishing adventures of Jane Smith r*
 —Grey mask
 —Black cabinet r
 —Red lacquer case r
 —Dower House mystery r
 Lowndes Story of Ivy r
 —What really happened? r
 Turnbull Madame Judas r
 —Rogue's march
 Jordan Lady of Pentlands r
 —Miss Blake's husband r
 —Devil and the deep sea

(These lists have been prepared with the general hospital in mind, rather than the hospital for mental and nervous cases.)

Letters—Information and Discussion

D. C. Numbers in the Code for Classifiers

To the Editor of LIBRARIES:

The attention of the compiler of the Code for Classifiers has been called to a possible misunderstanding of the function of the D. C. numbers printed in the margins of the pages, namely: these numbers may be mistaken to indicate the classification in the decimal classification of the topic discussed in the rule to which they are attached. Nothing could be further from the intention of the author than such an interpretation of these numbers.

In the foreword, after saying that the alphabetical arrangement, used in the mimeographed edition of the Code in 1914, had been changed to a systematic one, the author says: "The sequence of topics now follows the sequence of classes in the Decimal Classification of Dr Melvil Dewey so far as the character of the topics has permitted." The sole purpose of the Dewey number is to enable the classifier to locate readily the topic of which he is in search, without recourse to the index. Nothing is implied, or should be inferred from the Dewey number, as to the disposition that the D. C. system makes of the topic in question. In many cases—e. g. poetry (both poems and criticism), individual authors, wars,—topics are grouped together for comparison that in any system of classification would be scattered all thru it. The Dewey number for the general subject is added to keep these groups in intelligible order. If the D. C. ruling is mentioned at all, it is either in the text of the rule or in a note.

In discussing some points of classification, reference has occasionally been made to possible expansions of Dewey numbers; or a decimal figure has been used as a brief way of designating the ruling followed in the library reporting

upon it. These numbers are not official rulings of the D. C. Office.

WM. STETSON MERRILL

The Newberry library
Chicago, Ill.

D. C. Numbers on L. C. Cards

The desirability of having D. C. classification numbers on the Library of Congress printed cards has been discussed for many years but no funds have been available for such work. According to a plan submitted by the Committee on Cataloging and Classification and approved by the A. L. A. Executive Board, letters have been sent to all libraries subscribing to the L. C. printed cards inviting them, if interested in the project, to subscribe an amount equal approximately to ten percent of an average annual bill for the L. C. cards. The demand for the D. C. numbers will be judged by the response received. Work will not be started and no money will be collected unless a minimum of \$9,000 for three years is pledged. If more is subscribed, the surplus will be either deducted pro rata or applied to extending the work, as preferred.

Dr Putnam has approved having the work of assigning D. C. numbers done at the Library of Congress, desks and necessary space being provided there, but no other expense or responsibility is assumed. It is planned, first, to supply numbers on cards currently printed for English books, extending the work to foreign books and reprinted cards as time and funds permit. If the work is to be begun, it is desirable that a start be made within the next two or three months so that it may become established by January, 1930.

Libraries not now subscribing to the Library of Congress printed cards because the D. C. numbers have not been given or persons interested in this un-

dertaking and wishing to contribute, may obtain copies of the letter and pledge cards by writing either to the American Library Association or to the Librarian of Congress.

Attention is called to the fact that the work is to be done under the direction of the A. L. A. and that all pledges are to be paid to the Association.

ELIZA LAMB, Chairman

A. L. A. committee on
Cataloging and Classification

Offering a Gift

Editor, LIBRARIES:

A patron of the Public library, Gary, Indiana, has unbound copies of the *Chicago Inter-Ocean* and of the old *Chicago Herald*, dating back many years, which are offered thru the Gary library to any library desiring them.

WILLIAM J. HAMILTON
Librarian

LIBRARIES:

We have a copy of Maryland, the history of a Palatinate by William Hand Brown, *American Commonwealth Series*, which anyone who desires may have by paying postage.

CLARA M. MAIN
Librarian

Public library
Lewistown, Montana

Free Material

Programs suggested for use in celebrating Armistice day, Goodwill day and Memorial day, which have the focus of attention placed on heroes of peace and avenues for world coöperation, rather than military achievements, have been compiled by the Education committee of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Songs, poems, plays, pageants, folk dances, selections from the writings of famous men, and topics for short talks and essays are in-

cluded, classified according to the age of the pupil.

All these are available upon application to the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Pennsylvania Branch, 1924 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

A Tribute

The Editor, LIBRARIES:

The new era in Newark has started on this plane.

E. V. B.

To Miss Winsor:

Everyone who works in the library is proud that the trustees have named you our chief. It was a privilege to work for Mr Dana with you. We look forward to proving our loyalty and devotion to you both.

August 3, 1929

To the Staff:

My very sincere thanks to you for your expression of good will. Working together, as always, we will try to carry on Mr. Dana's work for Newark.

As one librarian wrote me, "It is the end of an era, there is no one to take Mr. Dana's place."

(Signed) B. W

August 5, 1929

Libraries in India

The public libraries in India have failed to get any help from the government, so far, to secure an efficient working. India being a land of greatest ancient literary treasures is not steeped in the darkness of ignorance. Mass education is essentially needed and a net work of efficient public libraries, thruout the country, would solve the problem no doubt. With this end in view, the All India Libraries association in coöperation with other district and provincial organizations, at present, works under heavy odds.

The present pitiable condition of mass education in India was brought to the notice of the vast gathering of the library workers from all parts of the

world assembled at Edinburgh, in August, 1927, by the only non-official Indian representative.

It is highly desirable that the promoters of the library movement in America should help Indian libraries now, by sending a mission to India as was done to China several years back. It is hoped that this appeal from India will not remain unanswered.

Tatanagar

T. C. DUTTA
1-8-29.

Valuable Suggestion

The frequent requirement that every bill against a library, even the one for twenty cents, shall be made under oath before a notary public is burdensome to the dealer and seems quite unnecessary.

The Federal and State Relations committee of the A. L. A. has been requested to initiate legislation in all states which would obviate this requirement of swearing to bills.

The committee has decided that such a campaign is beyond its powers, but it wishes to suggest that state associations, state librarians, and other leaders may be able to secure relief locally. In some states, legislation would be required; in others, only a ruling from some state or local auditing official.

In Massachusetts, bills need not be made under oath if they contain a statement that they are made under the penalties of perjury. This may prove suggestive elsewhere.

The committee promises its support to any state organization which takes up this matter.

RALPH MUNN
Chairman

Support Urged for New B. M. Catalog

A complete new edition of the British Museum Catalog of Printed Books will be issued if 200 subscribers can be secured in America by November 1, 1929. The Bibliographical Society of America appeals to all American li-

braries in a position to join the efforts of the Bibliographical Society of America in making it possible to secure the new edition.

This latter will include all the entries in the original edition of 1881-1900, with corrections and accessions to date, and will be printed on a durable grade of rag paper.

The Rockefeller Foundation is prepared to make it possible to give a discount below the lowest price mentioned by the British Museum, which is £2. 10 sh. per volume, for 160 volumes, publication to extend over at least eight years. The grant of the Rockefeller Foundation will reduce the total outlay to \$1600 distributed over eight years.

The new edition will present the largest collection of titles ever printed and will list what any author has written. Used in connection with the Union Catalog of the Library of Congress, the British Museum Catalog will completely cover any field of inquiry.

It is barely possible that the number of volumes issued will be a few more than 160, and that the time of publication may extend over 10 or 12 years, which will reduce the burden of each year. Those who can do so are urged to send their subscription, at the earliest possible date, to Frederick W. Faxon, Treasurer, Bibliographical Society of America, 83 Francis Street, Boston, Mass.

A New Line of Procedure

The *Committee on A. L. A. Activities* at a meeting at Washington adopted certain methods of procedure to be followed in its survey of the A. L. A. activities. They may be modified and they undoubtedly will be enlarged, but in general they are as follows:

1) Attendance by the committee, as far as possible, at meetings of the Executive board, Board of education for librarianship, Commission on the library and adult education, and of important committees.

2) Examination of minutes and reports of various boards and committees.

3) A meeting of the committee at A. L. A. headquarters to observe its activities first-hand.

4) To obtain from a cross-section of the members of the association their suggestion on and criticisms of the work and policies of the association. The ones to whom request for such suggestions would be sent would be chosen by some arbitrary method, perhaps, for example, the first five names at the top of each page of the A. L. A. *Handbook*.

5) Other suggestions will be solicited from representatives of special groups as occasions demand.

6) To encourage members of the association to bring suggestions or criticisms at any time to this committee. (Addresses are given below.)

Members of the Committee at the Washington conference attended meetings of the Executive board, Board of education for librarianship, Committee on library extension, Editorial committee and Membership committee.

GRATIA A. COUNTRYMAN
Minneapolis public library
H. H. B. MEYER
Library of Congress
C. H. COMPTON, Chairman
St Louis public library

League of Nations Catalog

Books on the Work of the League of Nations, cataloged in the library of the Secretariat, 1920-1927. League of Nations, Geneva. 274 p. Price, \$1. World Peace Foundation, Boston, American agents.

The 2341 "Books on the Work of the League of Nations Cataloged in the Library of the Secretariat, 1920-1927," are all listed in the bibliography of that name, recently published by the League of Nations. This volume is classified according to subject treated irrespective of language, while under each subject the works are listed chronologically. In the United States, it may be obtained from the World Peace Foundation, Boston.

Nearly 350 works from this list, or one-seventh of the entire collection, are of American origin, either written or published in the United States. Most of these naturally concern spheres where American interest has always been greatest, such as the World Court, prostitu-

tion and the drug traffic, the Geneva protocol, and the whole question of League sanctions in relation to the United States. By contrast, practically no material has come from America on the subjects of minorities and mandates, or—strange to note—on the League's economic activities.

The catalog aims to deal with questions only in their relation to the League. It does not, for example, give a complete bibliography of the mandates question (one was published by the Mandates Section in 1926). Articles from periodicals are also excluded from the list, unless reprints of these have been sent to the library of the Secretariat as pamphlets. It is dated January 1, 1928, and will be followed by supplements published at regular intervals.

H.H.B.M.

Anniversary Celebration of the Paxton Carnegie Library

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Paxton Carnegie library was celebrated by all day "open house," June 27, 1929, the librarian, Miss Emma Meharry, who has held that office these 25 years, acting as hostess. No books were loaned.

The children were guests during the morning hours and were entertained by story telling.

The afternoon entertainment was given by local friends who had prepared original verses and a story for the occasion.

These were repeated on the evening program. Mr C. A. Larson, president of the board, gave an interesting report of the dedicatory services held June 27, 1904, comparing the opening days with the present.

Miss Nellie E. Parham, librarian of Withers public library of Bloomington, who was the principal speaker at the dedication of the library in 1904, was again a guest and gave a delightful ad-

dress, filled with reminiscences and library lore.

The library was especially decorated for the occasion with flowers and flags, and a birthday cake with 25 candles. Five tables carried classified books arranged as 1) Books suitable for gifts 2) books for children 3) old books (several over 100 years old) 4) religious books 5) books for garden lovers.

C. A. L.

The Visit to Italy

A comment by one who was privileged to attend the meeting reads as follows:

The things predicted would happen have been abundantly realized. They all happened—and then some! As an international gesture of good will among the scholars of the world, the meeting was a success, although purely as a library conference it was a little too much like the Tower of Babel. But then I have heard that even the League of Nations is open to the same objection.

Reciprocity is Now In Order

The *Chicago Tribune* has announced new and lower rates for its rag paper editions. A new, convenient filing and finding service for annual subscribers was also announced.

The *Chicago Tribune* rag paper edition, daily and Sunday for one year, to be bound and delivered two volumes per month, \$170.

Subscribers wishing to do their own binding are now offered the daily and Sunday rag paper edition of the *Tribune*, mailed daily, for \$100 a year. For the daily edition mailed once a week, \$75 a year; for the Sunday edition mailed once a week, \$50 a year. Single copies of the daily edition, 75 cents; Sunday copies, \$1.25.

Education Week

The week of November 11 has been set aside as American Education Week. It is sponsored jointly by the N. E. A. and the American Legion.

The program for each day is arranged

Monday, Armistice day, Faithful citizenship
Tuesday, Home and School day, Worthy home membership

Wednesday, Know Your School day, Mastery of tools, technics, and spirit of learning

Thursday, School Opportunity day, Vocational and economic effectiveness

Friday, Health day

Saturday, Community day

Sunday, Ethical character

An Important Date

Children's Book Week is November 10-16.

Suggestions

The occasion of Book Week saw an increased amount of interest in the mere subject of books on the part of a great many editors scattered in various parts of the country. An editorial in a New York paper gives expression to the idea of Book Week that comes so near to the ideal which has brought library service to its present high level that it is given here as a pleasant reminder.

If the world's wise men were polled on the question "What is the most useful habit parents can develop in their children?" the answer would be: the reading of books.

Children's Book Week, beginning next Monday, should serve as a reminder to fathers and mothers delinquent in this respect.

Anyone able to read with understanding and discrimination can unlock all doors leading even to the highest education.

The purpose of schools and colleges and universities is mainly to stimulate and inspire the student to read.

Books are the means of training and advancement in the material business of life.

Their truth, romance, adventure and poetry constitute an escape from the hard realities and disappointments of human existence.

Books are an invitation to share the most intimate thoughts of the rarest spirits of all the ages.

Moods and Tenses

I'd like to be a could-be

If I could not be an are.

For a could-be is a may-be

With a chance of touching par.

I'd rather be a has-been

Than a might-have-been by far,

For a might-have-been has never been

But a has-been was an are.

—Cornell Widow.

Monthly—Except August
and September

Libraries

Mary Eileen Ahern, Editor

216 W. Monroe Street
Chicago, Illinois

Subscription - - - - -	\$3 a year	Five copies to one library - - -	\$12 a year
Current single number - - - - -	35 cents	Foreign subscriptions - - - - -	\$3.50 a year

By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or postoffice money-orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at market prices.

Contributions for current numbers of *LIBRARIES* should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

1856—John Cotton Dana—1929

The earliest friend of this magazine has joined "the innumerable majority beyond our vision."

In the days following the World's Fair in Chicago, the call was insistent for a library periodical which should serve particularly the hundreds of small and medium-sized libraries west of the Allegheny mountains, in the theory and practice of the service of books. When Mr Dana was elected president of the A. L. A. in 1896, he was ready to listen to the call of the inarticulate, as he was to the end of his days, and seeing the field of the demand, he used his place and power to inaugurate the movement which resulted in the establishment of another

library journal in America, not in competition but in a spirit of coöperation with all other efforts to lead to more knowledge among those in small libraries and to greater vision among library workers everywhere. *Public Libraries* was launched under his personal direction, carrying as an earnest of his belief, the first presentation of the early pages of his now famous Library Primer. For many of its early years, his counsel and support were the greatest dependence the magazine possessed. Afterwards, as was his wont, his first attention outside his own domain, was to the struggling and aspiring workers newly come to realization.

A Sense of Propriety

THAT Miss Beatrice Winsor was chosen to succeed Mr Dana, as librarian at Newark, is evidence in itself of the splendid professional spirit which has grown up around that city's public library. That the propriety of such an

appointment was recognized so promptly by the library authorities, is a tribute to the work of Mr Dana. The splendid teamwork in the library service rendered Newark was a response to Mr Dana's fine leadership to which every member

responded with a visible "joy in his labor."

Miss Winser has a rare combination of womanly grace, inspirational attitude and great common sense, combined with high ideals of professional duty toward her craft and to her supporters that promise still further growth in the

unique, notable work of the Public library of Newark. Her appointment as Mr Dana's successor in the public library and as head of Newark's splendid museum is cause of felicitations to all concerned. Sincere best wishes for the greatest success will attend Newark's new librarian.

Attitudes Toward Books

A RECENT discussion of the differences in methods and aims of the people in Europe and America regarding library work would show that some who are disposed to be severely critical, do not take into consideration the real situation.

The attitude toward libraries in Europe is different from that in the United States, particularly, among the users of libraries, and evidences of this difference are seen whenever librarians of both regions enter into a discussion of the work. The attitude of the librarians in Europe and, to some extent, in Canada and Mexico, is colored by experience and tradition. The attitude is that of those who have long regarded books as treasures of great value because of their rarity or exclusiveness among


people of rank and means. There is little of that attitude on this side of the Atlantic. The use of books, their service in everyday life and the business of living in any environment have long been the main thot of librarians in this country, except in a few notable instances. Library endeavor has been engaged in the distribution of books because of the practical helpfulness they can render and not in the collection of them for the joy of possession or the cultural value of their beauty of form and contents. These separate attitudes are the result of material conditions and not because of essential differences in knowledge or lack of appreciation of them by the various peoples concerned. Many men of many minds.

Some Effects of Library Rules

AT a recent meeting of the British library association, Bristol, England, among various and interesting favors distributed, is copy of a letter possessed by the Municipal public libraries, City of Bristol, from the poet Coleridge when the then city librarian tried to enforce a rule of the library.

Librarians of today may sometimes ponder situations that are similar. There are too many instances on record of librarians addicted to inelastic red tape.

For instance, a librarian was soundly berated thru the public press for refusal to lend an inconsequential volume in the library to the newly arrived owner and editor of a leading paper in the city, because his name was not in the city directory. The only concession allowed was that he should secure endorsement of a city tax-payer. Such a librarian, doubtless, could trace the line of descent from the librarian who was addressed so beautifully by Mr Coleridge.



Mr Catcott,

I beg your acceptance of all the enclosed letters. You must not think lightly of the present, as they cost me, who am a very poor man, five shillings.

With respect to the "Brucker's *Historia critica philosophiae*", although by accident they were registered on the 23rd March, yet they were not removed from the Library for a fortnight after; and when I received your first letter, I had had the books just three weeks. Our learned and ingenious Committee may read through two quartos, that is, one thousand and 400 pages of close printed Latin and Greek, in three weeks, for aught I know to the contrary. I pretend to no such intenseness of application or rapidity of genius.

I must beg you to inform me, by Mr Cottle, what length of time is allowed by the rules and customs of our institution for each book. Whether their contents, as well

as their size, are consulted, in apportioning the time; or whether, customarily, any time at all is apportioned, except when the Committee in individual cases, choose to deem it proper.

I subscribe to your Library, Mr Catcott, not to read novels, or books of quick reading and digestion, but to get books which I cannot get elsewhere—books of massy knowledge; and as I have few books of my own, I read with a common-place book, so that if I be not allowed a longer period of time for the perusal of such books, I must contrive to get rid of my subscription, which would be a thing perfectly useless, except so far as it gives me an opportunity of reading your expensive little notes and letters.

Yours in Christian fellowship,
S. T. Coleridge.

There is nothing new under the sun.

Pamphlet Piles

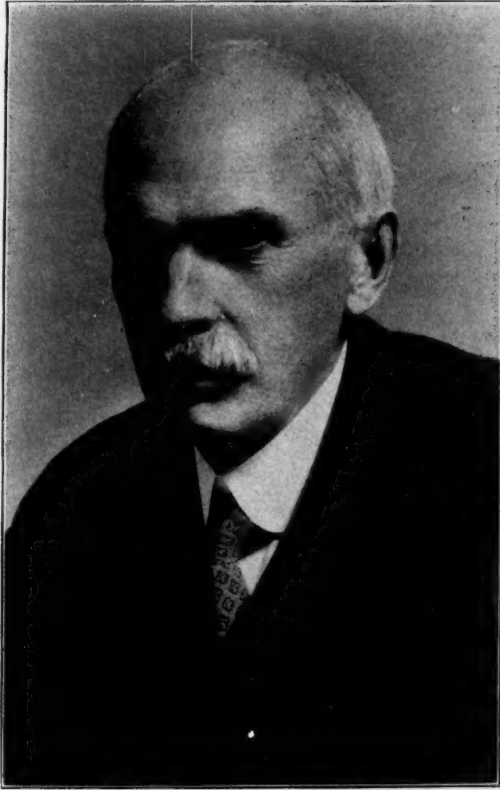
Much printed matter of every kind gathers on an editor's table every month, all of it intended to convey information about coming events, coming publication or new books. Much of it is worth reading, if one ever found time, but mostly the editor doesn't. The pile based on good intentions, grows larger, the dust on it gathers depth until, finally, some day when one's inadequacy makes one cringe, the whole pile, dust and all, goes into the wastebasket!

Sometimes, the beauty of the color printing, the clearness of cut or type procure a reprieve for a few pieces. Then, too, sometimes, one has been expecting

a new work of importance and has seen, perhaps, attractive advertisements and booklets showing plainly that they give information of an expected publication. One or another such, may be set aside for a short period but eventually, they, too, go the way of all "ephemeral material," and sometimes, alas, without that examination which they deserved.

The *wonderful* plates from the new Encyclopaedia Britannica are still on the desk of one editor, who is still hoping for the coveted time that will allow more than a cursory view of them. So long as they remain on the top side of the desk, one thing stands true:

A thing of beauty is a joy forever.



John Cotton Dana, for 27 years librarian of the Public library, Newark, N. J., and director of the Newark museum which he founded in 1901, died in the city which he served so long, July 21.

J. C. Dana was seventh in descent from Richard Dana who emigrated to America in 1640, and was the ancestor of all of that name in this country. He was reared as well as born in that rugged New England village. He entered Dartmouth College at the age of 18 and graduated in 1878, leaving at Hanover a fine reputation as an earnest, high-minded, scholarly young man of marked intellectual capacity. He studied law but delicate health led him to Colorado where he was admitted to the bar in 1880. With health somewhat restored, he resumed his law study in New York City and became a member of its bar in 1883. Ill health again compelled him to go to the west where he had the varied experience of life on mountain and plain, in mining camp and town, which he counted as a valuable course in his education.

In 1881, Mr Dana became librarian of the Denver public library. From 2,000 volumes, the library grew in the nine years of Mr Dana's administration to a well-selected collection of 40,000 volumes. As secretary of the Board of Education, he came in close touch with men and methods in the educational field, which knowledge added greatly to his efficiency in his later work to bring coöperation between the library and the schools.

In 1897, Mr Dana assumed the librarianship at Springfield, Mass., where he found a remarkably rich and valuable library of over 100,000 volumes collected by his predecessor, Dr William Rice, librarian for 38 years. Mr Dana's work in Springfield was the introduction of the potentialities of this great wealth of material to the community.

He entered upon the duties of librarian of the Free public library, Newark, N. J., January 15, 1902. The year before he went to the Newark library, it circulated over 314,000 volumes; in 1928, the circulation was 1,795,067 volumes. Many of the books were lent for one

month. When Mr Dana went to Newark, the library had 79,000 volumes which increased under his direction to 391,843 volumes. The borrowers were 19,680; it now has over 75,000. The increase in library borrowers has far outstripped the increase in the city's population.

The celebrated business branch of the public library started in 1904 and has grown until its character and power is recognized thruout the whole business world.

Mr Dana met a lack of material for developing many of his ideas of the service of print, but by his personal persuasion, he opened many avenues for books for young people, particularly, a short history of Newark which entered under his direction the public school of Newark. Thru exhibitions of city and state industries and thru the use of unoccupied rooms in the library or the museum for meetings of the various educational and cultural organizations in the city, much intelligent appreciation for library service was given. Mr Dana believed "the wise librarian will keep his mental manners plastic and his professional methods flexible. An enthusiasm born of the love of the calling is the one most essential attribute of the librarian, if he would be forever helpful and never an obstacle."

The printers' craft said of him many years ago that he, more than any other individual in the country, had done more to promote the cause of good printing among the general public, and his house organ, *The Newarker*, has shown more important results in the matter of print than any other in its class. The Newark public library was noted for its display of good printing in exhibits and in its own publications.

His idea that the museum was essentially an educational institution was effectively demonstrated in the great work which grew under his direction.



Beatrice Winsor, appointed librarian and director in Newark, N. J.

In the entrance gallery of the Newark museum is a portrait plaque of Mr Dana by John Flanagan, the sculptor. It bears the words: "This Museum is his thot and work."

As an executive, Mr Dana stood supreme. He had a remarkable faculty for passing on his own enthusiasms and for developing latent abilities, especially in young people, whom he was always ready to encourage, and he had the unquestioned loyalty of his staff and his associates. He was kindly, tolerant and had a remarkably keen sense of humor, tho the courage of his conviction in an outspoken delivery was not always understood or appreciated by those who lacked knowledge. The winning charm of his personality made him sought as a friend.

Mr Dana was always interested in educational activities. He was president of the A. L. A. in 1896; he was a member of the New Jersey library commission for many years; president several times of the New Jersey library association. He early advocated and helped form a library section in the N. E. A.; a member of the Committee on museum education; and the list of his memberships in merited and progressive societies is unusually long.

Mr Dana was buried in the family lot in Woodstock, Vt., bearing the love of his friends, the respect of his neighbors and the gratitude of innumerable fellow beings to whose life and happiness he had made unbounded contributions.

—From official account by Newark public library.

Tributes from Colleagues

To the Editor of Public Libraries:

It is of course natural and appropriate that you should invite from us characterizations of Mr Dana as we severally regarded him. But none of the conventional phrases quite satisfy our memories of him. He was unique. Others have designed, others have constructed, others have proved useful in criticism; still

others have affected us with the charm of a personality. His rarity was in a combination of these traits and abilities: originality in the design, skill and vigor in the construction, power of analysis, and the requisite detachment, in the criticism; and a personality so winning.

His specific achievements at Newark were the more remarkable in that the field of them is not a city of the first dimension, yet their influence was cosmopolitan; while his criticism, applied to the general principles and practice of our profession, tho merciless in its analysis, was so controlled by his essential refinement, good breeding, and good humor that it never could be resented. His weapon was the rapier, not the bludgeon: it might kill, but it never bruised. He was, in brief, thruout, the gentleman.

HERBERT PUTNAM

Washington
Sept. 14

The privilege of working with John Cotton Dana has been mine for 27 years.

They were interesting and productive years. Mr Dana imbued us all with his eager spirit of service. He taught us to think straight, to work hard and to keep in mind always that we must measure our work and not rest in the belief that our methods were good and did not need change.

His creative genius was a constant stimulus in our work with him.

Whenever Mr Dana planned a change in the library or museum, it worked, because he had to a tremendous degree the power of visualizing whatever he designed. He was always inspiring, sympathetic, a friendly critic, and a constant encourager of initiative in others, giving generous credit to those who worked with him.

A truly great man has gone and we shall never see his like again. His spirit and work will long live after him.

BEATRICE WINSER

Aug. 1, 1929

Dana has gone but his works liv after him. He was a born leader & ofen a valuabl irritant to the somnolent. Sumtym he was so far ahed of his associates that they thot he himself had lost the path. Now & then his keen sense of humor led him to take a ryz out of other librarians by saying or ryting things just to "stir up the animals." Lyk Socrates, he enjoyd being a gadfly to rouz others to thot if not to aktion.

But on his pasing, the potensi of his words & work was wydli voucht for by the pres of the cuntri. Ther has apeard mor warm comendation of his ideas than has been given within my memori to eni other of our profesion. Wel wil it be for librari interests to hav mor John Danas to stimulate to nu thot & fewer, plain John Smiths to mereli faithfuli turn their crank, never wori eni by jumping their trolly or geting out of their conventional ruts.

I didn't always agree with Dana but I did admyr the keennes of his intelekt & the sinceriti & persistens with which he tryd to make his own dreams a realiti.

MELVIL DEWEY

In the early nineties, the Salem public library received from Denver the first numbers of a new library bulletin which attracted attention by fresh criticism of books and library methods and novel suggestions in library practice. This was the first introduction of John Cotton Dana to the library world. In these early bulletins may be found germs of many ideas which were afterwards developed in practice and have come into general use. Any librarian who is so fortunate as to have access to these early numbers of the Denver bulletin will do well to spend an hour browsing over them. If he does not always agree, yet he will find them stimulating. Such headings as "The world's greatest books were published this morning," "The new book is the book of value," "Don't skim novels, read them," the printing with approval of Henry Cabot Lodge's article comparing Homer's heroes to pirates,

awaken thot. This fresh treatment is found all thru Dana's life. His stinging criticism of established methods at first exasperated but on careful consideration one generally found that he was right. The voice was that of a friend not of an enemy. His work at Denver, Springfield, and Newark is his complete vindication.

GARDNER M. JONES

Public library
Salem, Mass.

"A few lines" devoted to a man so many-sided as Mr Dana, can hardly deal with more than one aspect. In not many rôles will he be more missed by his fellow librarians than in that of critic. He was a critic—joyous, fresh, searching, and unabashed. No man was ever less awed by precedent. He tried all things by the test of present usefulness; authority riveted no chains for him. If you argued on the assumption of Shakespeare's greatness, he smilingly nominated himself president of the anti-Shakespeare society. He early realized that the public library is a new civic instrument; he labored to free it from the hampering traditions of the older libraries from which it sprang, and to search out new forms of service—witness his free circulation of pictures and other illustrative material. He had a marvelous gift for publicity, and his outspoken strictures as well as his suggestive proposals caught the ear of a wide public. And he never ceased offering criticism—pungent but engaging—to his co-workers in the American Library Association. Other men may find for libraries new avenues of usefulness, but who will so frankly point out what he believes to be errors and shortcomings for the good of our bibliothecal souls?

HILLER C. WELLMAN
Librarian

Springfield, Mass.

Altho not a pioneer in library work, the entry of John Cotton Dana into the

profession 40 years ago, marked the beginning of a new era in its development. As secretary of the Board of education at Denver, Colo., he saw how the library could complement the work of the school and he established the first children's library room, giving them free access to the shelves.

Later, in his four years at Springfield, Mass., he remodelled a library of over 100,000 volumes, increased the home circulation 45 per cent and reduced that of fiction 24 per cent, and the increased home use of a Children's library of 8000 volumes was marvelous.

It is, however, his great work for the past 20 years at Newark, N. J., that proves him an innovator, leader and master builder in all branches of library usefulness. As an institution supported by the people, he believed the library should be freely opened to the people and acted accordingly.

He has been called a "prophet" but he was rather a seer and a doer, and his practical ideas and ideals have been widely adopted by other librarians and directors of museums.

In his death, the library profession has lost one of its greatest, wisest and most efficient leaders.

CHARLES ALEXANDER NELSON
Swarthmore, Pa.

The passing of John Cotton Dana is a distinct and deeply-felt loss to librarianship. As time goes on we shall realize more and more how much we owe him. "The way they do at Newark" has been reflected all over the country by the adoption, with or without modifications, of methods, appliances, labor-saving and public-serving devices which have promoted library effectiveness and efficiency. Mr Dana was never too busy to be helpful to the younger and less experienced members of the craft. If a list were compiled of all those who in the last 30 years have appealed to Mr Dana for advice and suggestions and received a

hundred-fold more than they expected, the roll would be an impressive one.

Mr Dana delighted to play the critic and we have all felt the sting of his critical lash, wielded with rare skill and striking to the very center of things. But his criticism was used for constructive purposes and never bore the faintest touch of personal bitterness. Mr Dana was the critic of *things*; but just as truly was he the friend of *people*. He tore down much, but he built up more, and perhaps in the long run we shall see that we are indebted to him for the one as much as for the other.

GEORGE B. UTLEY

Newberry library, Chicago

Neither personal nor professional intimacy with John Cotton Dana was ever my privilege. Mr Dana in Newark and I in Brooklyn, with only Manhattan Island separating us, which, as a common meeting ground for every interest, intellectual and other, should be more of a link than a barrier, might seem to have had frequent occasion to cultivate each other's acquaintance. But it was only at rare intervals that our paths crossed. Yet, I always felt that I knew Mr Dana well. Twenty years ago, upon my entrance into library responsibility, I had first opportunity to estimate his essential greatness when at Bretton Woods, I was more of an admiring onlooker than a contributory participant at Mr Dana's founding of the Special Libraries association.

In the many years since then, I have hoped and expected to have a deepening acquaintance with Mr Dana thru the prevailing professional activities in the metropolis where so many craved his presence and his contribution. But Mr Dana was wisely conserving his powers and strength for the great undertakings which made him the most influential citizen of the city he served, and he rarely favored us with his professional fellowship out of bounds. Nevertheless, he was a pervading influence in all library

relations and concerns, far and near, and his conspicuous enterprises in Newark kept all of his neighbors aware of a powerful motive force which was our constant inspiration and incentive tho, at the same time, almost our despair. I, myself, became increasingly conscious despite our separate ways, of a spiritual bond with Mr Dana cemented by a consciousness of sympathy in things material as, for example, the cultivation of the art of printing, and in matters professional, as in our kindred views in regard to the dangers of the sudden prosperity and expansion of our national organization.

When recently Mr Dana welcomed me to his library, the second time, to spend the day with him and his staff, it was as if we had been on intimate terms always, so natural and sympathetic was our intercourse, tho ten years had intervened since my previous visit. Mr Dana's friendship required no cultivation, no assertion. It was understood.

John Cotton Dana's distinguished reputation, his eminence in American librarianship can gain nothing by any tribute I can pay. I write only as one who has gained much from his life and example, and has lost much in his death.

EDWARD F. STEVENS

Pratt Institute free library
Brooklyn

Take him all in all, we shall not see his like again.

John Cotton Dana has long been a name to conjure by, the embodiment of the spirit of progress. He was a flash of inspiration illuminating the dark corners of a problem. A leader who establishing a road, marked its course, and having instituted the power of going, disappeared for the moment to appear at another point not yet well set. Thus he went on thru the years, always following a gleam of "the next thing to be done," unmoved by praise or blame so far as it affected the work in hand. A man with an artistic, sensitive nature, one who loved

harmony in every form and situation, a mind tuned to the highest achievement, with an appreciation that often mounted to pain, and yet, subject in all his professional life, to meet the things that hurt such persons beyond expression.

Mr Dana lived in a world of ideals and practical ideas. His mentality never grew stale. His library vision saw possibilities beyond the field of any one's achievement and no result of an ever so hard accomplishment meant more to him than another starting point for further endeavor. His far-reaching vision of things needful to be done in the library world, were oftentimes trying to those inclined to pause and take measure of the work done; to many more, it was a call to greater effort in wider fields, an encouragement to still follow on so long as the gleam was in sight and even when it was not, to labor and to wait.

He was by all odds, the strongest library force in his day even when his insistent call to action disturbed the somnambulant in places of power. He was the born leader, seeing, recognizing opportunity and proclaiming possibilities of achievement in the world of print and even while his waning physical powers made it impossible for him to carry on himself, inspiring others to move forward and possess new fields of service. If one looks at the outstanding interest in library work today, he sees school work, children's departments, technical books, business branches, museum co-operation, study clubs, lectures and courses and other lines first sponsored by the libraries under the direction of Mr Dana—Denver, Springfield and Newark.

He was not always in attune with his contemporaries, but the common people heard him gladly and the library craft for which he labored so long, so sincerely and so effectively, is the better in every way because of his devotion to its ideals.

M. E. A.

In the news of Mr Dana's death, I feel bereaved of library leadership for which I always looked first to him. Among all now in our profession, where do we turn for his like? Why was it, he remained keen of intellect and sympathy and never became petty, even under severe criticism so often dealt out to him by those who did not understand. As a librarian, he had courage, humor, a lively mind, vision, hopefulness, energy—all the qualities needed and so seldom united in one who is a librarian!

Living in the country, meeting so many hard working country people, I understand better than ever the need for book service of all sorts in country as well as in city. Mr Dana well understood this from the first and made it one of his chief concerns.

CORNELIA M. PIERCE

A newspaper in the Southwest in an editorial on Mr Dana's valuable contribution to the development of library service, closes as follows:

Dana was what might be called the "militant minority of one" in library work. He was of the fighting type, who believes in the justice of a cause and stands by his convictions. For this reason he often found himself arrayed against all of the more conservative heads of the A. L. A.

It is the man like Dana whom the world needs. In an age of "yessing," backslapping and conforming, there must be someone to jar us out of our sense of security—or, to remind us that heresy is a valuable "vice" at times. Dana did it with the workers in the library field and long after thousands of his co-workers have been forgotten, his name will be written high on the roll of true colossi of the land.

Publication by the School of library science of Western Reserve University of a directory of graduates, 1905-1929, in recognition of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the School, gives alumni and the library world in general, a complete list, arranged alphabetically by class and by geographical location, of the alumni of the school. A limited number of copies are still available for distribution.

American Library Association

Notes and news

The A. L. A. reports that it has been able to procure copies of Fargo's *The library in the school* from a surplus stock which the mimeographers were holding. Copies are again available. The final edition of the book is expected in the early spring.

Linda A. Eastman, W. W. Bishop and Carl H. Milam represented the A. L. A. at the conference of the World association for Adult Education at Cambridge, England, August 22-29. Mr Milam represented the A. L. A. at the conference of the World federation of education associations at Geneva, July 25-August 3.

The changes in Headquarters staff at A. L. A. are: Margaret Vinton, until recently instructor at the St Louis library school, came to Headquarters, September 16, as general assistant to the Board of Education for librarianship.

Eileen Duggan, who has just finished organizing the library at the College of St. Mary of the Wasatch in Salt Lake City, will be general assistant in the *Booklist* office after September 10.

Mrs Grace Johannesen, head of the membership department, left, September 1. Her successor is Cora Beatty of the Public library, Louisville, Ky.

Dorothy Rowden, editor of the *Bulletin* and publicity assistant, left, September 7. Mrs Beatrice Sawyer Russell, who has been in charge of publicity at the Public library, Albany, N. Y., will be her successor.

A copy of the list of A. L. A. committees for 1929-1930 has been received, with the note that "not all committees have been appointed." The list compares in length and number with that of the last year and the names included in the membership are about the same as those of former years. Doubtless a printed list of this membership will be

distributed from Headquarters in due time.

The September number of the *A. L. A. Bulletin* gives interesting information concerning the proposed endowment fund for the A. L. A. There are 65 sustaining and 14 contributing members now enrolled toward the 400 required to reach the A. L. A. million dollar goal.

The report from Cleveland heads the enrollment, Miss Linda Eastman having secured the quota of 15 sustaining memberships with an additional list of three contributing memberships.

The 65 sustaining members now enrolled are distributed as follows: Chicago, 19; New York, 19; Cleveland, 15; Philadelphia, 3; Boston, 2; St. Louis, 2; Lake Placid, 1; Los Angeles, 1; Madison, 1; Milwaukee, 1; Muncie, 1. The contributing members are registered from: Chicago, 6; New York, 3; Cleveland, 3; Gary, 2; Syracuse, 1.

These results have been achieved in advance of the functioning of the newly created A. L. A. Special Membership committee, of which George B. Utley is chairman.

The preschool child, the first study program issued by the A. L. A. in conjunction with *Reading with a Purpose* course, has been prepared by Grace E. Crum, Bureau of parental education, National congress of parents and teachers, to form a basis for the study of Bird Baldwin's reading course on *The young child*.

A request has been received that the A. L. A. recommend that all libraries display the hours of opening somewhere on the outside of the building.

A second printing of W. S. Merrill's *Code for classifiers* has been made.

The address by Everett Dean Martin on Liberal education, at the last general session of the A. L. A., in accordance with a resolution passed, has been printed in pamphlet form. It may be had from A. L. A. Headquarters, at 25 cents, discount on quantity.

The September *Bulletin* also contains a review of the recent Congress in Rome by Secretary Milam, which is noteworthy for the concise, sufficient and comprehensive review which he gives of things that came under his observation at that Congress and later in Spain and at the Third Biennial conference of World Federation of Education associations at Geneva.

"The A. L. A. exhibit of 200 children's books was quite the most important and attractive unit at the conference of the World Federation of Education associations at Geneva. I have never seen in any other exposition so much note-taking as I saw in this children's book exhibit." A pamphlet on children's books, including lists of children's books from 26 countries which were on exhibition, may be obtained from the International Bureau of Education, 44 rue des Maraichers, Geneva.

Special mention is made of the gracious address given by President Andrew Keogh of the A. L. A. in expressing the appreciation of the A. L. A. delegates for courtesy and constant attention to the welfare and happiness of the visitors, and for the great pleasure that was furnished by the many exhibitions of manuscripts and rare editions, the scholarly catalogs and lectures by their learned curators, and in recognition of the generous hospitality shown.

Why Not Make It Universal?

A rule adopted by the Library board of Spring Valley, Ill., provides that after a member has failed to appear for three successive meetings without providing a suitable excuse, such as illness or work, he shall be reported to the city council as being guilty of negligence of duty and a request made that he be removed from the board and a new appointment made. It is said that the action of the board was received by the mayor and several of the commissioners with commendation.

Dr Putnam on American Libraries¹

Dr Putnam made a presentation of "American libraries in relation to study and research," pointing out that the greatest effort in American library work up to the present had been in the service of the general reader.

He emphasized the following: The resource in material is extensive but the location is not adequate since the great bulk of the material is concentrated within a comparatively small area. Certain collections with great richness are widely distant, one from another. A few of the scholarly collections have been the result of deliberate intention, mostly they have come by gifts, particularly, those in the universities.

The American investigator may have to travel far and variously for direct access to his material. To the problem of overcoming these material obstacles, must be added his ignorance of the material and the apparatus of use. The veteran investigator of Europe, close to the major research collections and habituated to the use of them, has decided advantage over the American student. There is no single overhead authority whose service may be called upon, as is the case in Europe, for coöperation which is not yet extensive. The advantage possessed by the British Museum and *Bibliothèque Nationale* and the catalogs which they have issued are beyond reach in America. The American libraries of the research type do not issue catalogs in book form, and the card catalog, with one exception, serves only on the premises. An exception to this is the card catalog of the National library, sets of which have been made available to over 50 centers of research. The Union catalog of the National library will solve difficulties for many investigators.

The inter-library loan is generally accepted in principle, but the practice of

it has not yet assumed any large dimension. The difficulties are five:

- 1) Ignorance of the investigator as to the location of the book required;
- 2) Diffidence on his part;
- 3) Inability of the library addressed to respond;
- 4) Labor involved in shipment and return;
- 5) The expense of carriage, owing to the high postage, or still higher cost of express.

Impediments to a unified service are:

- 1) The large area to be served;
- 2) The localization within narrow areas of collections;
- 3) The major research collections are mostly the property of universities whose first duty is to their own faculties;
- 4) Considerable groups of material of concern to research are held conditioned to merely reference use.

The most significant collection of which these things are not true is the Library of Congress which is free to lend and does in fact lend freely, of its material to a serious investigator wherever he may be located.

The bulk of notable material still remains abroad. The substance of it is becoming gradually available thru the use of camera or photostat. The Library of Congress and the Modern Language association, thru subsidy and other collections, are making facsimiles available for scholars in America. The efficiency of informational service to American scholars and investigators depends upon our knowledge of what exists in the libraries of Europe. Valuable tools in this are the catalogs of the British Museum and its supplements, and the proposed catalog of the *Bibliothèque Nationale* is eagerly awaited.

The manuscript sources are so vast and so varied that a record of them is not yet accomplished.

Last, and important, is the human aid in the interpretation of the collections and in the use of the apparatus which may be rendered by an expert familiar with them and a specialist in the subject itself. The experts in the Library of Congress, while the number is yet small,

¹ Report on address at the Library Congress at Rome.

will be greatly amplified later. The personnel will consist largely of specialists in the subject, who have retired from teaching or research, but will welcome the opportunity to render their accumulated knowledge and experience of service to the public.

Dr Richardson on the L. C. Union Catalog¹

American libraries are trying to solve by means of the Library of Congress Union Catalog, the problem of eliminating waste in time and money by scholars and library information staffs in locating books for use which are not in the local library.

This problem is international. For America, however, the problem is more acute than for Europe as America depends largely on the European libraries for its unusual books. Europe is very little dependent at present on America. New York and Washington scholars are 3,000 miles from the nearest copy of millions of books and manuscripts which they need to use, and California's workers are 6,000 miles away. This gap is a serious handicap to American productive scholarship and the problem of the American libraries is to bridge this gap. They attempt to do this: 1) by purchasing at least one copy of every book which can be purchased; 2) by making at least one photographic copy of all important books which cannot be purchased, and 3) by locating for the use of their clients at least one copy of every useful printed book in some library where it can be used.

The Union Catalog of the Library of Congress is designed as the method of locating books and as an aid to coöperative purchase and copying. It aims, in the end, to locate at least one copy of every book, printed or written, which may be wanted for use, in some library where it may be used,—in North America if possible, if not, then elsewhere. It

contained April 1, 1929, 5,746,406 locations; 5,551,406 in North America and 195,000 in foreign countries.

The work of developing this catalog is organized as Project B of the Library of Congress. It is supported by a grant from John D. Rockefeller, Jr., of \$50,000 a year for five years. Its operations are distributed under three sections, corresponding to three groups of card record: I, Union catalog of individual books, II, Union catalog of special collections, III, Desiderata—or books most wanted. It is operated by a staff of 31 persons under the direction of a curator of union catalogs, Mr Ernest Kletch.

The Union Catalog may be referred to as a recognition of reciprocal obligation. It is a sincere attempt to recognize the debt, first by living up to the League of Nations appeal for each locality to do its share in international coöperation in this matter by doing its own work well, and second, by giving aid to the growing number of European scholars at work in the United States. It will directly serve European students at least in the matter of 20,000 codices in America and as to rare books not in public European collections, as well as in books of North American origin.

The disproportion of such service to the service rendered to Americans by European libraries is obvious and the American scholars are profoundly aware of this. They have used the European libraries freely for many years and they realize that without them, American intellectual life would be crippled. They are also aware of the fact that American libraries perform no corresponding service and they are willing to coöperate in every way possible with all European efforts when opportunity appears.

The unstinted social hospitality of Rome to librarians at this time is a reminder of the unstinted intellectual hospitality which we have enjoyed again and again from the great libraries of Rome. We are confident that the strong

¹ From address at Library Congress at Rome.

international good feeling among librarians, promoted by the recent visit of Prof Fago and his colleague to America, will be greatly increased by this Congress, and all such bringing together of men on the plane of intellectual coöperation. But under all this lies an unshakable foundation for permanent international good feeling between Americans and Italians in this debt of willing service of Italian libraries for the promotion of the highest spiritual interests of the North American nations thru the service of books.

Rural Library Service¹

... Turning from the obvious extension problem of multiplying stations and amassing books, I should like to suggest certain questions regarding rural library service. The county library is distinguished from the large municipal library by its large proportion of school libraries.

... There follow upon county library work a number of handicaps which the average city library is old enough to have forgotten: the untrained librarian, the often unlovely headquarters, the almost extempore board of control. The necessity for maintaining a multitude of branches means such a sub-division of the book stock as to materially slow up the service and to make much narrower the range of books to which the patron is exposed.

Parenthetically be it remarked, that in the absence of a trained librarian, the importance of a choice collection of books for the readers' selection cannot be over-emphasized. You remember what Charles Lamb said of his sister Mary:

"She was tumbled early, by accident or design, into a spacious closet of good old English reading, without much selection or prohibition, and browsed at will upon that fair and wholesome pasturage.

Had I twenty girls, they should be brought up exactly in this fashion. I know not whether their chance in wedlock might not be diminished by it, but I can answer for it that it makes (if the worst come to the worst) most incomparable old maids."

He stipulates, you observe, a "fair and wholesome pasturage," given which, much shepherding may be dispensed with.

In a small, rural community the local library suffers too from the pressure of local taboos. In addition to the usual race and sect jealousies there are the anti-fiction, the anti-public library, and the anti-luxury complexes to be considered. Then there is the small town taxpayer's notion of the proper librarian and the proper wages of a librarian, if indeed such an occupation should need a paid service.

Any one of the items enumerated above may produce enough friction to bring the service of a branch library to a standstill if it does not wreck its machinery. Any of these items may affect the size and speed of the current of books with which the county library tries to supply its patrons.

Now let us glance at that current. Have you ever analyzed your request slips? This is the day of the questionnaire. In the yellow slips we have something better than the questionnaire for it is more than a perfunctory answer to the query: What do our patrons want? And it is a fair cross section of the desires we serve.

For each board of trustees its own yellow slips will be most enlightening. In a packet of ours, I found slight tho unmistakable evidence of the reading courses sponsored by the women's clubs; of the high school debating team; the oratorical contest; the teacher's summer school; the state syllabus in English; the county grange. Certain individuals figured again and again in an endeavor to procure related books—reading with a pur-

¹From an address given by Mrs Arthur Chenoweth, Atlantic County library commission, Somers Point, N. J., before the meeting of the Trustees section at Washington, D. C., May 15, 1929.

pose. But I found something else, much more than the ash or the hair of a clue. I found that almost all of the requests fell into one of two groups betokening the search for amusement on a par with the most mediocre movie, or the search for information. Little poetry was asked for and precious little literature. Except for a few good books asked for by a half dozen readers whom any schoolman, clergyman or political force would be at no pains to list if he were familiar with county affairs, really fine things were in demand from a single rather remote settlement.

These findings might do no more than arouse curiosity if they did not agree substantially with the general situation in the county as the librarian has found it in three years' work. Suppose all those clients who wrote out request slips got the service for which they asked; suppose we achieved our pre-election promises—a book for every citizen—and, moreover, gave him the book he wanted, we would have accomplished the "extension" and the service—but what of the library.

What is a library? Is it that room in which the poor woman keeps her lone dictionary? Is it any heterogeneous assembly of books? Or does the word connote something of the spirit of the great collections? Is it a place of beauty, a sanctuary for all the precious works that have inspired men through the ages and are being added to by the finer spirits of our own day? Is it primarily a repository for those volumes that have a permanent value? Or is it just another public utility, capable of divorce from practically all the older associations of the word?

"In this country," a famous nurseryman has said, "the joy of doing transcends the joy of improving and maintaining." When a library has extended itself to 94 stations and 30,000 books, it is time to ask how much fur-

ther it is worth while to extend, and if it isn't better to enrich the acres.

We give shelf space to hundreds of books which if offered second hand would bring so little that face to face with such depreciation, a seasoned politician might be excused for trying to hypothecate real securities were a state examiner to appear. If you are familiar with the catalogs of dealers in second hand books, you know that good books of any age have always a respectable if not a respected market value. I wonder if it would not be a salutary thing to pay some good dealer in such wares to appraise our present stock. I wonder if even the volumes recommended in the *Reading with a Purpose* courses would save our faces, since allowing a margin for reprints, about three-fourths of the first twenty-eight courses are puffs for books published since 1910. And as every librarian knows, the life, physically and intellectually speaking, of most of the books of that period will not be long.

The point I have been leading up to is this: To what an extent is the county library justified in purchasing and promoting the use of culture books, the books that are worth remembering? The services of readers' advisers in the municipal library are costly. Mr Charles Compton of the St Louis public library asserts truly: "There is no service so expensive as individual service and no library at present could afford to give this service to any great extent if the demand should become general for it." Many of the methods for promoting good reading in the urban library are ill adapted to the county library and yet the need of such work is urgent.

In many county libraries, the chief librarian may be the only member of the staff equipped to do that delicate work which is the library's highest function. To what an extent should we permit her to use her time, work hours and leisure, for this type of extension work? Who will say, authoritatively, what propor-

tion of our funds should be taken from book buying and spent for furthering book appreciation? What is the legitimate amusement value of books? What their tool value? Are we giving our patrons only what they can get for themselves, or are we giving them an opportunity? Are we justified in buying the beautifully printed, the beautifully illustrated book, the rare book? City libraries invest in them, but can we? How far will the state and national library associations justify and support us if in future we refuse to buy, wholesale, printed matter which shortly will be worth about two cents a pound?

These, it seems to me, are the real problems of rural library service and extension: creating a distaste for the mediocre and growing upward.

Committee Report on Loose Leaf Publications¹ (Condensed)

Mr John Vance, law librarian, Library of Congress, and chairman of a Special committee on loose leaf publications, reported on the possibility and feasibility of speeding up certain governmental activities, especially the Bureau of internal revenue and Board of tax appeals, as they come thru the Government printing office. He said in part:

The Bureau of internal revenue issues two services—*Treasury Decisions* and the *Internal Revenue Bulletin*. The *Treasury Decisions* are issued in mimeograph form every day and are available to the public only at the Treasury department. It is not feasible to distribute these advance sheets by mail. The *Decisions* are issued in printed form every week and may be subscribed for at \$1.50 a year.

The Internal Revenue Bulletin Service offers: treasury decisions; court decisions; general counsel's opinions, rulings and decisions, in weekly bulletins and

semi-annual cumulative bulletins. These may, also, be subscribed for from the Superintendent of documents.

The Treasury department issues a monthly periodical which contains statements as to the character and general effect of the decisions and rulings. Its contents are written by employes of the Internal Revenue service and are not to be regarded as official. While the government officials in charge realize the desirability of issuing this material as soon as possible, considering the costs, physical equipment, etc., it is not possible to do so at present. The Internal Revenue bulletin service condenses and digests the material.

What is true of these reports, is true of most of the others. The services are slow, but it is a matter for the law librarians to decide as to whether or not there is sufficient demand by the people for a more prompt loose leaf service, or whether the government publications—*Treasury Decisions*, *Internal Revenue Bulletin*, *Board of Tax Appeals Decisions*, and the private newspaper known as the *United States Daily*—will not meet the need. Those who feel that these things do not meet their needs with sufficient promptness will doubtless desire to take up the three services of the Commerce Clearing House and Prentice-Hall at a cost of \$210 per annum in addition to the government publications.

The tax calendar of the Board of Tax Appeals appears in the *U. S. Daily* every Monday morning. The calendar contains the list of cases to be heard during the succeeding week, that is one week hence, so that taxpayers can recognize what cases are coming to trial before the Board and can adjust their own courses by delay or further negotiations.

When the decisions, memorandum opinions, etc., are published, there is carried a digest, setting forth the principle of law involved or summarizing for the reader what has been done in the way of changes in rules and regulations.

¹Read at meeting of American Association of Law librarians at Washington in May.

The World Library Congress in Rome

The historic library congress was held in Rome according to schedule, June 15-18, closing the meeting at Venice, June 30. A visitor speaking of it says:

It was an unique experience in conventions which left one with the feeling not that what was done was not good, but so much was left undone, or not thought of consequence until too late. The exhibitions and entertainments were quite well done and I think that everyone was satisfied.

When you realize that there were 16 sections, 140 papers, and only two rooms for these meetings and no stated time as to when things would come off, there might be confusion. The idea was that when one section was ended the next section in order would begin its work and that in this way everybody would be in his place and no time would be lost. It was thought by changing presiding officers and keeping the same audience, all would go well.

The Congress opened its sessions on June 15 in the historical chamber of the Senate Palace. The meeting was opened with a most cordial speech by "Il Duce" in the presence of the ambassadors and ministers from various countries. On the platform were the Governor of Rome; the Minister of public instruction (president of the Congress); President of the preparatory committee; Under-Secretary of State for public instruction; president of the International Library committee, Dr Isak Collijn; and Dr Vincenzo Fago, general secretary of the Congress.

In the afternoon meeting, messages were heard from the delegates from various countries. Special tribute was paid to the memory of Sir Antonio Panizzi, an Italian political refugee who found a home in England. He is the one who reorganized the British Museum making it generally useful for the first time.

Sunday was a free day except that members were invited to pay homage to the unknown soldier who is buried on the steps to the Victor Emmanuel II monument. On Monday, June 17, the regular meetings began that lasted until the twentieth. It is impossible here to give

a consecutive account of what took place on the various days and at the various places, but it is hoped that a general notion of the Congress may be given.

Section I, which was under the presidency of Dr S. C. Bradford, librarian of the Science library in London, discussed Classification. This discussion limited itself to Decimal classification in its French and English form. Section II, presided over by J. Emmler of the University library at Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, discussed International cataloging rules. Dr Z. V. Tabolka of the National library at Prague, in his report (see L. 34:222-323), said he was not able to find any ground for world uniformity even in the case of personal authors and considers the problem of international cataloging rules unsolvable. He recommended, however, that cards should be of uniform size, that editing should be uniform and that abbreviations should be standardized. He suggested that the first line on the cards should be left blank so that any library could put in its author entries as it sees fit. John Ansteinssohn of Trondhjem, Norway (Albany, N. Y., 1918-19), discussing Subject cataloging in a comparison of American and German practice, pointed out the greater tendency on the part of the German catalogers to group certain minor subjects under their greater heading so that their catalog more nearly approaches the systematic catalog.

In the section dealing with the Book industry, presided over by Dr T. W. Koch, Dr Robert C. Binkley of Smith College discussed Paper deterioration which led the section (6) to adopt a resolution of which the following are the main points:

- 1) The past 50 years has seen the wide use of highly perishable paper in publishing, with the impossibility of preserving records of the time. Librarians are urged to endorse all measures: 1) to promote the use of durable paper in publishing whatever works should be kept for the future, 2) to salvage publications already printed upon perishable paper.

To this end the following lines of endeavor were proposed:

- 1) Scientific research looking toward durability specifications for paper,
- 2) The manufacture of standard paper conforming to these specifications,
- 3) The creation of a publishers' trade custom which shall impose upon all publishers the duty of indicating upon each work the durability index of the paper used therein, so that the purchaser may know the life probability of the publication he is buying,
- 4) The introduction of a practice which will require the issue of special library editions because of the durability of the paper,
- 5) The possibility of securing copyright legislation as to a minimum number of registration copies of all publications printed upon durable paper as a part of the deposit requirement,
- 6) To secure printing of a sufficient number of durable copies of government documents of permanent value to meet the needs of libraries,
- 7) To collect and exchange information concerning documents and printed matter now deteriorating by reason of the low quality of stock,
- 8) To organize and coördinate efforts by different institutions to discover and salvage decaying printed matter.

In Section X, of which he was president, Dr W. W. Bishop discussed the Interchange of librarians, students and teachers of librarianship. He pointed out that exchanges had already been effected with success. Stating that it was the younger members of the profession who should be interchanged, Dr Bishop proposed the following:

- 1) That the International Library committee continue to study various questions of exchange and to promote such exchanges as seemed feasible,
- 2) That sections should endeavor to increase the knowledge of the operation of present exchanges,
- 3) That the section should endeavor to aid in financing exchanges of personnel and to ascertain what legal and other obstacles to free exchange exist with the view to have them removed.

A paper by Dr G. Bonazzi, director of the National library in Rome, illustrated the problems that face a library in such an old city as Rome. He outlined the plans for the proposed centralized building for all the Government public libraries of Rome. Another interesting

discussion was on the Psychology of the book, as described by Marie Teodorova of Sofia, Bulgaria. She showed the effect of the printed or spoken work on the hearer. She said it may be of practical value to the librarian by making it possible to indicate on catalog cards by index number, the grades and reactions of the book. Dr Nicola Roubaline, director of the *Institute International de Bibliopsychologie* at Lausanne, Switzerland, was the originator of the studies made.

Not all of the 16 sections listed held meetings nor were all of the papers offered, actually read as it was impossible to put so much business into a few days, but it has been announced that all papers will be printed in the final proceedings.

The following Americans presented papers: J. C. M. Hanson, International cataloging rules; J. G. Hodgson and Aline Payen, Additions to the A. L. A. rules as used in the International Institute of Agriculture; George Watson Cole, Bibliographical methods; Theodore W. Koch, The book trade and book collecting; Dr Herbert Putnam, American libraries in relation to scholarly research, (see p. 380); Dr Ernest Richardson, The Union catalog of the Library of Congress (see p. 381); A. E. Bostwick, The Public library in the United States; Andrew Keogh, The Stirling library at Yale; Mahlon Schnacke, Exchange experiences in Germany.

The Congress which had no authority to enforce its resolutions, nevertheless, presented resolutions which were adopted by those present:

1. That a new edition of the *Biblioteca Bibliographica Internationalis* should be published.
2. That the *International Federation of Library Associations* get in touch, as soon as possible, with the *Commission* and the *Institute for Intellectual Coöperation* for the preparation of an international code of bibliographical abbreviations.
3. That the *International Committee* prepare and keep up to date a list of all organizations and institutions which are oc-

cupied with international bibliography, giving also a list of their publications.

4. That the governments follow effectively the recommendations made by the League of Nations in 1928 concerning the conservation of printed matter and manuscripts.

5. That the *International Commission on Intellectual Coöperation* study the ways of publishing each year a list of the libraries which possess machines for microphotograph and for projection.

6. That the *Office of the Federation* seek the means of organizing exchanges of librarians, of students and professors of library science, and, that the purposes of effecting exchanges of personnel, the *Office* put itself in touch with the *Commission* and the *Institute for Intellectual Coöperation* in order to secure funds and gifts, and that the *Office*, through the intermediary of the secretary, present periodical reports to the *Committee* on the exchanges and training periods in question.

7. That professional schools for librarians should be established in those countries where they do not exist, that instruction in library schools or similar institutions should be obligatory for the various classes of library candidates, except that in those countries where the library schools do not yet exist the training period shall be compulsory, and recognized by a certificate, that the diplomas given by library schools should be officially recognized, and that the interesting experience of the *American Library Association* which had created at Paris an international library school, to which the students of 25 different nations had been admitted, should be continued, and if possible enlarged.

8. That the secretary of the *Federation* edit and publish a list of the adhering associations, where will be mentioned their names, the names of the president and secretary, their addresses, and a list of the publications of those associations.

9. That in consideration of the great importance for the present as well as for the future, of forming a complete collection of all publications of each country, it is necessary that in each country one library, or more for the larger countries, collect all of the national production either as furnished to them by the printers and publishers by virtue of a copyright law, by special agreements with the publishers, or purchased by special funds granted for that purpose.

10. That international loans between libraries should be made without intermediaries and on the principle of reciprocity, the conditions which control them in each country being unified in as far as possible.

11. That the *Commission on Intellectual Coöperation* study the basis of an agreement acceptable to all countries, whether adherents of the Brussels convention or not, with the object of establishing in each of them an office charged with the unification and coördination

of international exchanges of literary and scientific publications.

12. That the exchange of university theses should be more general, the university libraries themselves specializing in order that the number of copies to be distributed might be limited.

13. That all publications purchased or received by libraries should be duty free.

14. That national information and bibliographical centers should be created in accordance with the recommendation formulated in 1928 by the *Commission on Intellectual Coöperation* and in 1929 by the *Committee of Librarians* at Paris.

15. That the national organizations interested unify the regulations for keeping the statistics of printed matter, and that the *Office* ask a special committee to prepare for this unification.

In addition to the resolutions offered by the committees, two resolutions presented by individuals were adopted also: 1) Dr Heinrich Uhlendahl, of Leipzig, suggested the issuance of adequate current bibliographies, up to date, appearing at frequent intervals and covering the entire product of the press of each nation. It is desirable that a current index to all periodicals or at least to the most important articles appearing therein, should be made. The resolution further recommended to publishers and book dealers that every translation should be so indicated on the title page as well as the language in which it was originally issued; that the name of the author should be accurately rendered, that bibliographical data are necessary for the original title as well as for the indirect translation. This is true, also, for revisions, abridgments and selections.

Prof Gsell, Inspector of libraries, Paris, offered the second resolution which was adopted: "In the selection of books for popular municipal libraries, a very prominent place must be given to the books which can contribute to international good will and world peace."

The revision of statutes of the International Library committee and the change in name to the International Federation of library associations more clearly indicate the object and atmosphere of the organization.

The appointment of Dr T. G. Svensma, librarian of the League of Nations as secretary of the new organization, is of special moment. Some of the main points of the new by-laws are:

Object of the Federation shall be to promote international library coöperation; members of the Federation should be those library associations of national or wider scope which approve these resolutions and others adopted from time to time; the affairs of the Federation shall be administered by the international library committee whose members shall be selected by associations which are members of the Federation; delegates shall be elected for a period not exceeding five years but are eligible for reëlection; duties of the committee shall be to select time and place of conferences, to prepare programs, to make investigations and recommendations concerning international relations between libraries, bibliographers and other agencies; international library conferences shall be held at least once in five years; committee meetings shall be held in connection with each international library conference and other sessions may be held at the call of the chairman and must be held when requested by one-third of the committee; officers of the Federation and of the committee shall be a president, two vice-presidents and a secretary which shall constitute the executive board, elected by the committee for a term to expire not later than 12 months after the close of each congress. The executive committee shall fill its own vacancies. The annual dues of each member association are fixed between 25 and 50 centimes (Swiss) for each member of that association or on a basis of five to 10 per cent of the receipts from membership dues of the associations. It shall not be more than 2,500 francs for any association.

Any resolution adopted by the committee or congress shall not be binding on

any member until ratified by the association.

The following countries and a number of international bodies were represented at the Congress.

Albania, Argentine, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Brazil, Canada, Chili, Czechoslovakia, China, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Holland, Hungary, Japan, Iceland, Latvia, Mexico, Norway, Palestine, Poland, Portugal, Rumania, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States, Uruguay, and the Vatican City were the states. Of the international organs of state there were the League of Nations, the International Labor Office, the International Institute for Intellectual Coöperation and the International Institute of Agriculture.

Of the total registered attendance of 979, about 364 were from Italy and 615 were from outside countries.

	Country	Official Delegates	Members	Totals
1	Italy	..	364	364
2	France	8	136	144
3	Germany	7	88	95
4	United States	14	73	87
5	Poland	3	33	36
6	Denmark	4	30	34
7	Switzerland	7	27	34
8-11	Latvia, <i>et al.</i>	2	29	31
12	Great Britain	7	3	10
	Canada	1	2	3
	Total foreign	88	527	
	Total Italy	..	364	

Grand total 979

There were some in attendance who did not register and pay their dues.

Among other delegates those best known to Americans were: Mr Samuel T-Y Seng, director of the Boone library school, China; M Gabriel Henriot, *conservateur en Chef*, Forney library, Paris; M P. Roland-Marcel, administrator of the National library, Paris; Prof H. A. Krüss, director, Prussian state library, Berlin; Dr T. A. Cowley, Bodley's librarian, Oxford; Mr Arundell Esdaile, secretary, British Museum; Signa. Espereanza Velasques Bringas, chief, Library department, Mexico City; Mr T. P. Svensma, librarian of the League of Nations.

A Congress of Surprises

A visitor's notes from Italy

The American when he visits foreign shores is supposed to find things somewhat different. Otherwise how could he decide that America had to be radically changed, or that only in America . . . It was with a particular interest therefore that one heard Dr Herbert Putnam, in his most gracious manner strike the real keynote of the Congress. There is no danger, he had said, of this Congress becoming cut and dried. Not knowing what is to be on the program from day to day, there has been introduced into the Congress that pleasant prospect that every day is to bring forth its own surprises.

But if the actual program of the Congress was unscheduled and the meetings of the various sections, when they got together, delightfully informal, the program of entertainments and expositions was fully scheduled and admirably administered. The gala dress of functionaires at the palaces and gardens where tea or refreshments were served, the beauty of the surroundings, and the sincerity of the informal gatherings endeared their Italian hosts to the polyglot visitors.

Perhaps the biggest surprise of the whole Congress came on the first day when the Congress was formally opened by the chief of the Government, "Il Duce." Used as the visitors were to seeing his famous frown in his publicity photographs, and expecting the domineering poise for which he is famous, the members were struck by the very simplicity and sincerity of his entrance into the old chamber. It was a new "Duce" for all of them, and when he welcomed them to Italy he was no longer the unknown, but the man who had captured their admiration.

It was this same sincerity under the hard forms of rituals that characterized the two audiences in Rome, that with the Pope and that with the King. In the

absence of the Queen from Rome, court etiquette demanded that only the men official delegates be presented to the King, and if the American and British delegates took pains to tell the women members of their delegations how much they enjoyed the visit, the enjoyment was sincere. Many of the delegates however did not realize the honor to which they were treated during the audience with the Pope in the Vatican library. Usually so closely guarded, his time so carefully planned in advance, it is rare that anyone has a chance to see him as a human, but in honor of the visit of the members of his former profession after the formal presentation he remained in the library chatting with the various delegates and renewing acquaintances that had been broken off in the last years when he could no longer be a librarian. This time it was not the congressists who were surprised, it was the man who knew the papal ritual.

Fortunately the weather in Rome was fairly cool during the meetings, and during the tea served on the Palatine Hill there was none of that enervating heat that greeted the members of the Koch party on the same hill nearly a year before. Miss Emily Miller, however, working on the A. L. A. exhibit before the opening of the Congress, was surprised by a heat wave that sent her to Ostia Marina for a bath that left its mark with a brilliance not to be hidden.

At the palatial Ambassadors' hotel, where the Italian government had placed the American delegates as their overnight guests, Mr Milam, ever the information center, issued an occasional cautious bulletin to the effect that he had "been given to understand that there is supposed to be a meeting—" But while he was that himself, it can be recorded that he was found one Sunday morning about 7 a. m. wandering about the city alone energetically refusing all assistance of those who wanted to show him the points of interest.

To the American visitor it was interesting to note the difference in methods used in planning the Congress. Definite sections had been planned ahead of time, and a certain restriction made on the subjects which were to be treated, but beyond that in the European manner, individuals were left to present papers or not just as they chose. Such a program naturally would lack a certain uniformity, and some sections would grow to great size. So at this Congress, with not less than 140 papers presented, the old ten ring circuses of the A. L. A. had an excellent chance of being beaten. But the situation was saved by the difficulty of getting audience, speakers and presidents of the sections together at the same time. Again in such congresses it is the custom for the speakers to append resolutions to their papers, these resolutions to be discussed in the section meetings, referred to a central resolutions committee, and finally be voted on in one of the last plenary sessions. To the European it is the passage of these resolutions which marks the central interest of the Congress, even more than to the American the central interest is in the principal speakers brought up for the occasion. In any case as a result of the pressure of work, and the number of papers which were read only by title, the *Proces Verbal* of the Congress will have a far greater interest to the persons that attended than is usually the case. And added to this will be the desire to know what was in the papers read but not translated.

While it must be admitted that the English and American members were a learned lot, they were a little unprepared—surprised we might say—at the ease with which they all acquired the title of Doctor. Some allowance should be made for the fact that the *Doctorate* is the standard university title in Italy, but this was not quite enough to prepare one American for seeing himself referred to in the morning papers as Doctoresse.

The members of the Congress did however get to see Rome, from the exterior at any rate. The offices, the hotels, the places of meeting and the exhibitions—placed as they were in various interesting palaces and museums of Rome—gave an unusual opportunity for taxi rides, and side visits that took the interest away from the business at hand. A map of Rome, distributed some time after the beginning of the Congress, gave the location of the various points which had to be visited, and saved a few from spending all their time on the *Temptation of St. Anthony* when they should have been at the Library exhibition below.

During the Congress the Italians who until the present had been without a truly representative national organization of librarians, took the opportunity of organizing the "*Amico del Libro*" (Friends of the Book) which includes not only librarians but publishers, book dealers and book lovers. In a sense its function is larger than that of a library association, but having been organized as the result of a desire on the part of the librarians themselves to have an association it has excellent possibilities of becoming the national order of the librarians.

Between the sessions at Rome and Venice the librarians wandered, many of them without reference to the formal program, over Italy visiting libraries. We have been informed that the motor-cycle side cars are excellent taxies for Naples, although less romantic than the gondolas of Venice, and we have heard of many other places that they wandered, but most of them, after not seeing the Pope leave the Vatican on June 25, were in Venice for the final session, a little surprised to be taking part in a great funeral there, but highly honored when the occasion was made clear.

The most impressive part of the whole program at Venice was the great procession when the ashes of Jacopo Sanso-

vino, the great Venetian architect, originator of the famous style of Venice, were transferred from the Church of Health to Saint Marks. Before, in the rich chambers of the Doge's Palace, with the occasion made more impressive by the presence of Cardinal La Fontaine in his red robes, there had been a commorative meeting. The librarians had seen the *Libreria di San Marco*, the Doge's Palace, the *Ca 'Grande*, and they were grateful for the circumstance that had brought the *Congres* and the ceremony together. But it was the first time that many of them had seen a colorful, slow, and slightly irregular Italian procession. Over the Grand Canal it came by a special wooden bridge erected for the occasion, down to the St Marks square under the balconies of the Doge's Palace where the librarians had been given the privilege of being, once around the square and then into the *Duomo*. Not many of the librarians, when they attended the reception given there, realized that it was the construction of the Napoleon Room under French dominion that had caused the destruction of the small chapel where the ashes of Sansovino had rested so long, and had finally given an opportunity for still another change when his ashes were moved to their final resting place in Saint Marks.

The jump from such a ceremony on Sunday afternoon to the official goodbye at the Excelsor hotel on the Lido that night, when the most of the delegates said goodbye to their Italian hosts, was not so great as it might seem. The touch of sadness that one feels on leaving Italy fitted equally well with the pomp of the afternoon ceremony and the last gaiety before the departure. Dr Putnam, with his happy gift for expressing the spirit of the occasion, had said well that the element of surprise was present at the *Congres*. Looking back at it from Venice tho, one was not surprised at the feeling of regret that the *Congres* was over, and one had to leave.

A Special Edict on Procedure

Before the final separation, the following ideas were formally expressed:

Before dispersing, the members of the first World's Library and Bibliographical Congress solemnly declare that, in the domain of higher education, as well as in the field of popular instruction, the library should be placed in the first rank of existing organizations, for without the library it would not be possible for the investigator to extend the boundaries of knowledge, nor for the people to continue their self-education.

Therefore, state and municipal authorities should encourage and develop libraries equally with the universities and schools, not only with reference to their budgets, but also with respect to technical, intellectual and social matters.

That only thus will the different countries be provided with the means necessary to the cultivation of the spirit and intellectual advancement which are the highest ends of civilization.

COWLEY,

KEOGH,	ROLAND-MARCEL,
COLLIJN,	GIL ALBACETE,
FAGO,	KRÜSS.

An addition to the Carnegie Peace Palace at The Hague, Holland, has been made in the form of a three gallery building which will serve as a library annex to house reference works. This building will be joined to the main building by a covered bridge. Plenty of light is furnished by long windows occupying practically the whole of one wall, fronting which are tables for the use of readers. Shelves and cupboards are ranged on the three other sides.

The placing of books follows the system in Holland, that is, with regard to their format rather than their subject. This is done to save space. The catalog then will indicate the precise room, shelf and position on the shelf of each book or document. There are 60,000 volumes which have a direct bearing on questions of international law.

There are many periodicals in many languages dealing directly with legal matters. These include economics, social science and general matters.

Library Meetings

Massachusetts—The annual meeting of the Massachusetts library club was held, June 28-29, at Provincetown, at the tip end of Cape Cod, an ideal place for a meeting, easily reached by a boat trip from Boston, and attended by some 170 members.

In a delightful welcome by Mrs Nancy W. Paine Smith, author of *The Provincetown book*, she reminded the audience that Provincetown was the first landing place of the Pilgrims and that the celebrated Mayflower Compact was signed while the ship was in its harbor. Mrs Smith, who admitted that Lief Ericsson was probably buried under her cellar and that she could speak for the native families because she was related to them all, told many interesting incidents of Provincetown life and history. One noteworthy event showing the power of a book, occurred when the Universalist church was founded because of the influence of a book seen floating on the water, which was rescued and read by a small group of persons.

Mr R. R. Bowker gave interesting personal reminiscences of famous authors, their characteristics and methods of writing. Following Mr Bowker's most enjoyable and informing address, the melodramatic pantomime, *The Light-house keeper*, was given by an all-star cast of librarians.

At the annual business meeting of the club, reports of various committees were given; George H. Evans, librarian at Somerville and for a number of years treasurer of the club, was elected president as successor to Galen W. Hill, librarian, Thomas Crane public library, Quincy. The possibility of holding a Northeastern States Regional library conference at Swampscott in June, 1930, was referred to the Executive committee.

The feature of the morning session was a round-table on practical library problems conducted by Harold T.

Dougherty, librarian of the Westfield Athenaeum. Some of the problems discussed referred to library personnel, training, salaries, etc., while other problems dealt with the practical work of the delivery desk. The discussion was lively with many taking part and ended with some humorous incidents as seen from the delivery desk.

At the afternoon session, round-table discussions were held for hospital librarians and for children's librarians. The most inspiring session of the club was held on the evening of June 9. The first speaker was Miss Margaret Jackson, librarian of the Hoyt library, Kingston, Pennsylvania, who spoke on *The Poetry of the nations*. Miss Jackson, evidently a sincere lover and student of poetry, quoted from the poetry, ancient and modern, of many different countries. Her appreciation of this poetry was so keen and real that the audience thoroly shared her enthusiasm.

The last speaker of the meeting was Mr G. A. Beneker, a prominent Provincetown artist, who discussed the nature of art, explaining it as a way of doing things and on so broad a basis that all can be artists in their own work. The art of living he described as the greatest art of all. Mr Beneker is a great believer in the beauty and dignity of labor and showed many of his portraits of laboring men, explaining how he caught and revealed the real spirit of the men. He spoke of how few pictures of honest toil and labor by American artists are to be found in the art museums of the country.

With the inspiration of poetry and the high ideals of art, the meeting ended on a high note of inspiration.

HAROLD A. WOOSTER
Recording secretary

Coming meetings

The Kentucky library association will meet at Georgetown, Kentucky, October 10-11.

The Mississippi library association will meet at Jackson, Mississippi, November 21-23.

The Texas library association will hold its biennial meeting at Waco, Texas, October 30-November 2.

The annual meeting of the Iowa library association will be held in Des Moines, Iowa, October 14-16.

The fall meeting of the New Jersey library association will be held in the Public library, Orange, N. J., on October 11, 1929.

The Midwinter meetings of the American Library Association will be held at the Drake hotel, Chicago, Illinois, December 30 and 31.

The annual meeting of the Michigan library association will be held at Grand Rapids, Michigan, October 3-5, Headquarters, Pantlind hotel.

The annual meeting of the Virginia library association will be held at the Jones Memorial library at Lynchburg, Virginia, November 1-2.

The 1929 conference of the South Dakota library association will be held at Rapid City, October 9-12. October 9 is to be devoted entirely to rural library problems. The rural leaders of the state have been invited. Edith Tobitt of Omaha and Frank K. Walter of Minnesota University will speak.

The thirty-fifth annual meeting of the Ohio library association will be held at the Hotel Sinton, Cincinnati, on October 9, 10 and 11.

The opening general session will be held on the afternoon of October 9, and that evening will be given over to a talk by John Cowper Powys, followed by a reception by the staff of the Public library of Cincinnati.

On Thursday evening, the association dinner will be followed by a talk by Professor P. D. Sherman of Oberlin College. Mayor Seasongood of Cincinnati

has accepted an invitation to be present at the dinner.

The college and university librarians, children's librarians, and reference librarians will have meetings on Thursday morning, October 10. The catalog section, larger libraries section, and small libraries section will meet on Friday morning, October 11.

A local committee of Cincinnati librarians is arranging various hospitalities which will make the meeting a pleasant one. Opportunities will be given to visit the local libraries and many other places of interest.

Illinois Library Association

Meetings for 1929

The place and time for holding the thirty-third annual meeting of the Illinois library association has been announced as: The University of Illinois, Urbana, October 16-18.

The latest announcement received is as follows:

- Oct. 16, Wednesday noon. Executive meeting
- 2 p. m. General session. Community needs
- Speaker, Prof W. L. Bailey
- Discussion
- 8:15 p. m. Speaker to be announced later
- Oct. 17, Thursday
- 10 a. m. General session. Library service
- Speaker, Prof W. L. Bailey
- Discussion
- 2 p. m. Business meeting
- 4 p. m. Campus tours
- 6:30 p. m. Dinner. Speaker, Zona Gale
- Oct. 18, Friday
- 9-11 a. m. Children's section
- Winnifred Bright, chairman
- 9-11 a. m. College and reference section
- Effie A. Keith, chairman
- 11-1 p. m. Lending section
- Mathilde Kelly, chairman
- 11-1 p. m. Trustees section
- Otto R. Barnett, chairman
- Afternoon Dedication of University library
- Speaker to be announced later
- Evening Informal reception. Tour of University Library building
- EARL W. BROWNING, Pres.

Announcement of the second Southern Conference on Education at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, October 19-22, is most tempting.

The dedication of the University's new building, which will be in use for the first time at the opening of the fall term of the University, will take place. The meetings of the Southeastern library association, the North Carolina library association and the Citizens' Library Movement of North Carolina will take place at the same time. Speakers of national reputation will be present.

Dr Andrew Keogh, librarian of Yale and president of A. L. A.

Dr Shailer Mathews, University of Chicago

Dr Arthur E. Bestor, president of Chautauqua Institution.

Professional subjects will be presented by Dr William A. Gray, dean of the School of education, University of Chicago, The library and the school; Dr Louis R. Wilson, librarian of the University of North Carolina, Library training in the South; Morse A. Cartright, secretary of the Adult Education association, Adult education; Professor Frank Graham of the department of history of the University of North Carolina, The Citizens' library movement.

Dr Dewey has sent an invitation to the librarians of the American Library Institute to visit Lake Placid Club during Library week, October 7-12. Other librarians in the neighborhood will be cordially welcome. Club rates have been reduced to library standards and an opportunity for a week of rest amid scenes of peace and beauty is offered.

Summer Library Conferences

The Summer library conference conducted by the Wisconsin free library commission at Madison proved to be a real adventure in adult education for the 200 librarians in attendance. Twenty-one states were represented.

While the program covered a wide field, it was organized and grouped about several main themes:—rural community life, technical and professional problems, library business and manage-

ment, the library and the school, and the humanizing influence of books.

Samuel H. Ranck, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, gave the opening address of the conference, speaking on "The Economic value of a human being from the view point of library and school." In the evening, President Glenn Frank brought the greetings of the University and Miss Zona Gale who had just been honored by the university with the degree of Litt. D., spoke on "Implications."

The conference on rural leadership under the direction of Prof J. H. Kolb of the College of Agriculture, opened certain courses in rural social problems given in that conference to those interested in rural library extension.

The sessions were devoted to technical and professional subjects, more particularly cataloging and classification, under the direction of Mrs Jessie W. Luther, of the Library School staff, which were largely attended and provoked much discussion.

Another group in charge of Elizabeth E. Wilson of the School staff, considered matters of library business and management.

Another group was concerned with Library service for schools, in charge of Agnes King of the faculty of the school. Speakers in this group are specially noted in school work.

A group devoted to Books had Mary K. Reely of the Commission staff in charge. The key to the spirit of these meetings was given by Miss Reely's first talk on Humanizing knowledge followed by other speakers in the same vein.

The lectures were supplemented by round-tables in which all were given a chance to take part. Among these, was a discussion of County libraries led by Harriet C. Long, Traveling Library department, and one on local material of value to Wisconsin libraries, and National and state publications, led by Mrs R. D. Evans, of the Historical library.

Numerous exhibits, arranged by Miss Wilson, were open for inspection all thru the conference, as well as various libraries of Madison. A tea at the Historical library gave opportunity to visit the museum and view the famous Draper collection of manuscripts relating to the westward movement.

A boatribe on Lake Monona and picnic at Turvillwood on the Fourth of July, with Mrs Reuben Gold Thwaites as hostess, whose beautiful garden will be remembered by past conference visitors, was greatly enjoyed. Paul Bunyan tales, told by James J. MacDonald; Songs of the Shanty Boy of the lumber camps, sung by Gilson G. Glasier, the state librarian; Indian legends, told by Charles E. Brown of the State museum; and interesting narratives of local history by Dr Louise P. Kellogg of the State Historical society were most enjoyable.

A dramatic evening, at which "The devil in the cheese" was presented by a group of University readers, and an illustrated lecture on Art and the library, by Lucy Driscoll of the University of Chicago, were two of the evening entertainments. A ramble among old books, with Professor W. A. Sumner of the University, brought the session to a close.

A resolution, passed by a rising vote of thanks, expressed the satisfaction and enthusiasm of those in attendance. Mr Lester, for the commission, promised a fifth conference, not too far in the future.

Iowa

The tenth annual conference for library workers, held under the joint auspices of the Extension division of the University of Iowa and the Iowa summer library school, occurred July 2-3. The audience was composed chiefly of the 55 students of the school, about 25 visitors from the state, and the local librarians.

Prof C. B. Wilson of the University presided at the first session when President W. A. Jessup welcomed the audience. Miss Wormer, director of the University libraries, presided at the second session, Miss Felsenthal, director of the summer school, at the third, and Miss Robinson, of the Iowa library commission, at the last session.

Helpful, interesting programs were presented at the four sessions. Miss Mary Eileen Ahern addressed the conference on "Professionalism in Librarianship." She used Dean Russell's definitions, "The person who knows what to do and how to do it, is an artisan, a trade worker; he who also knows why he does it and in his doing is guided by high ideals, is a professional worker."

In a second talk, entitled "Toll of the Years," Miss Ahern shared with her audience some of her rich experience in the library world, pointing out valuable results that accrue in meeting a situation with courage.

Helen H. Aten of the Iowa library commission described vividly, Experiences of a county librarian, showing the satisfaction to all concerned in introducing the free use of books to a rural district.

Miss May Ingles, speaking on the High school librarian and her opportunity, discussed the objectives of high school libraries in general and the workings of the Omaha Technical high school in particular.

Making the library known thru the newspaper was treated by Charles H. Compton of St Louis who gave also, in a second address, Who reads what?, an answer to the question, Who reads the Greek classics? his conclusion being similar to those of his previous papers, Who reads William James? and Who reads Carl Sandburg?

Miss Grace Shellenberger spoke appreciatively on The Mississippi river in literature, evaluating many a bibliog-

raphical item of special interest to librarians in the Middle West.

The duties and opportunities of the small library in connection with local history were very clearly presented by Professor Benjamin F. Shambaugh, head of the department of Political science, and superintendent of the Iowa State Historical society.

The address at the evening meeting was made by Professor Victor Bohet of the University of Liège, for the past three summers visiting professor at the University of Iowa. Professor Bohet in his subject, Impressions of America, touched with keen insight on many aspects of American life, and with particular enthusiasm on American libraries.

Three of the four sessions were held in the Senate chamber of Iowa's beautiful "Old Capitol," now the administration building of the university. The evening meeting in the Iowa Memorial Union, where, after the address, a social hour was held, gave opportunity for students and speakers and visitors to meet informally. Breakfast, luncheon and tea groups and a beautiful dinner for all visitors furnished bright spots of special pleasure.

The P. N. L. A. Meeting for 1929

The twentieth annual conference of the Pacific Northwest library association was held in Spokane, Washington, August 29-31.

The official attendance registered 125, while the thermometer registered 100, so that it was a "warm" welcome that was extended by Chairman Miles M. Higley, Spokane public library. Miss Anne M. Mulheron of the Portland library association responded. Reports of committees and other routine business took up the morning session, which closed with the address of the president, Mr E. S. Robinson, of the Vancouver public library.

The gist of his address was to the effect that if libraries were worthy of the

name educational, then librarians should be educationists. He appealed to the delegates to study the various educational methods which might be applied in libraries and suggested taking advantage of educational research which was being carried out at present, especially in the University of Chicago Graduate library school. That the day of generalization and unscientific methods in measuring reading values was a thing of the past was very evident and that if libraries were to be accepted as a means of education in the community, scientific methods would have to be adopted instead of the more or less hit or miss methods of the present.

Some phase of county library work was discussed at each session and formed the central theme of the conference. Cataloging, school libraries and small libraries had their sectional meetings on the first afternoon where the relation of each to the county library was considered.

At the first general session held on the same evening, Miss Jacqueline Noel of the Tacoma public library told of the experiences of the County Library bill in the state of Washington and of plans for the future. This bill had the unhappy fate of being vetoed by the governor after it had passed both houses of the legislature. As a result, Washington must wait another two years for county library legislation which may be obtained by passing the bill again over the governor's veto.

Mrs Julia G. Babcock, librarian of the Kern County free library and this year president of the California library association, gave a most interesting paper on the operation of the county library system in that state. She described in picturesque language the development of the system in various counties and told of what county library service meant to the rural inhabitants. She was followed by Julia Wright Merrill, executive assistant to the Extension committee of the

A. L. A., who described the general development of county libraries thruout the United States and told of the various methods used to organize these. Then followed a moving picture showing the operation of the county library system in various parts of the country. Some of the methods used to distribute books shown by these pictures were original, to say the least, and no obstacle appeared to be too great for some people to overcome in order to obtain reading material. The conference felt pleased to have Mrs Babcock and Miss Merrill in attendance and they were constantly used in sectional meetings and in private interviews.

On Friday morning, problems relating to children's, college, reference and large and medium sized libraries' work were treated in respective meetings. The afternoon was given over to a drive around the city and a visit to the Public museum where punch was served. Following this, the delegates visited the Public library. A new wing had just been added and an especially fine art room with a beautiful collection of miniature books on display was a treat to the delegates.

Friday evening, Mr Ridington gave a paper on Bliss Carman, Canada's poet laureate. The recent death of this great Canadian poet brought home to Canadians the fact that a very severe loss had been sustained. Miss Ethel R. Sawyer of Portland then gave the conference a poetical treat which it will not soon forget. Without being didactic and avoiding the very appearance of teaching, Miss Sawyer opened the field of poetry in her own inimitable manner. Taking the latest poets, Miss Sawyer succeeded in interpreting their works in an altogether novel manner. She illustrated various classifications of the Dewey decimal system with appropriate verse and those who had the opportunity of listening to Miss Sawyer were agreed that the art of poetry was far from being dead.

Saturday morning saw the last general session of the conference which was opened with an interesting paper by Mr Fuller, of Spokane, on the history of the book-plate. Milton J. Ferguson, of California state library, followed with an account of the library survey in South Africa which he made recently and was in turn followed by Mr M. M. Stirling, librarian of the Germiston public library, of South Africa, who told about library service and the methods employed in the Union.

The Nominating committee chose Ellen Garfield Smith, librarian of Walla Walla, as next president, with Sarah Virginia Lewis of Seattle, John Hosie of Victoria, Mirpah G. Blair of Oregon state library, and Ora L. Maxwell of Spokane as the remainder of the new executive.

Library Work for the Blind

The American Association of Workers for the Blind held a meeting at Lake Wawasee, Indiana, in the early summer.

The fourth section comprised those interested in printing and library work for the blind, composition and binding being the topics under discussion. Adelia Hoyt, of the American Red Cross Hand-Transcribing work, presented some interesting points on the topic. She stated that "books are often enjoyed according to their make-up, binding, size, etc. Many blind people have cultivated their sense of beauty by touch and that element should be considered in our recommendations to publishing houses."

A section recommended to printing houses that the size of braille books should be standardized to 11x11 inches. This will help solve the shelving problem. It was also voted that uniformity of paging should be adopted by printing houses who were requested to put their page numbers in the upper right hand corner. Better care for the books in the mail is needed and a committee of three, to investigate the best possible wrapping

for the shipping of books, was appointed. The printing houses were also asked to put the book title on the outside of the braille books in a similar position to that used by the Universal Braille Press.

In the second session, the Mechanical process was the general topic and the following points were stressed: Smoothness of the paper; desirability of wet printing as against that of dry printing. Defects in some of the bindings were emphasized. The employment of blind proofreaders for printing houses was strongly recommended. The necessity of special adaptability and training in this field was stressed.

The third meeting was largely attended and the question of orthography or the merits of the standardized system of "Grade one and one-half" against "Grade two," was discussed. It was agreed, after long discussion, that there was a tendency toward Grade two, as demonstrated by the growing demand for English books among sightless readers, and the interest of the American Foundation for the Blind, yet the librarians and printers felt that the comparison of these two grades one and one-half against grade two, at this time, was premature.

At the fourth general session, Miss Goldthwaite, of the New York public library, said she considered the lack of book publicity the greatest weakness in the library service up to date. After much discussion, the following resolution was adopted:

It is the recommendation of this group to the American Library Association committees on Work with the Blind, that it consult with the A. L. A. for the preparation of a library supplement of brief book reviews, covering books, embossed in braille, to be inserted in one or more braille periodicals, and that the A. L. A. committee consult with the manager of various presses concerning the printing of this supplement.

Librarians for work with the blind were urged to adopt closer coöperation with the American Foundation for the

Blind and, also, with the printing presses in the selection of titles.

Meeting of Medical Library Association

The annual meeting of the Medical library association held in Cleveland, September 3-5, was welcomed at its opening meeting by Dr Carl H. Lenhart, director of the Cleveland medical library. Dr Archibald Malloch, president of the association, responded and proceeded to discuss the subject of medical bibliography. The titles of other papers of the first session were: Cleveland medical library, J. C. Harding; Medical books in the Cleveland public library, Louise Prouty; Library of the Rockefeller Institute, Miss L. M. D. Trask; Welch medical library at Baltimore, W. S. Shules.

Fire insurance and fire prevention for libraries were discussed. Carefully prepared papers were read which led to a lively discussion. James F. Ballard, director of the Boston medical library, discussed Appraisal for insurance purposes.

Dr F. M. Fishbein of the American Medical association described the methods of preparation of the *Quarterly Cumulative Index-Medicus* and stated that new editions of medical books would be entered in future numbers of the *Index*. Dr Fishbein offered to consider carefully, material selected by the association from unindexed periodicals for publication in the *Index*. A committee was appointed to consider the proposition.

On Wednesday afternoon, a round-table discussion, Problems of the small library, was conducted by Sabina Waterfield of the Mayo Clinic.

Various courtesies were offered the visiting librarians: a luncheon in the Cleveland medical library, a tea in the Art museum and a ride thru the parks. At the annual dinner, Dr Irving S. Cutter, dean of Northwestern Uni-

versity medical school of Chicago, gave an illustrated talk. An exhibition of books was made by the Boston medical library.

The 1930 meeting will be held in Montreal. The following officers were elected:

Pres., Dr Archibald Malloch, New York Academy of medicine; vice-pres., Dr W. W. Francis, Osler library, McGill University; secretary, Sue Biethan, University of Michigan medical library; treasurer, Mary L. Marshall, Medical library, Tulane University. Executive committee: James F. Ballard, Boston medical library; Edna M. Poole, Toronto Academy of medicine; Mr J. C. Harding, Cleveland medical library; Miss C. A. MacAuliff, Rush Medical School library; Alfred L. Robert, College of Physicians and Surgeons; honorary members—Miss M. R. Charlton, Dr Harvey Cushing, Dr W. W. Francis, Dr George Dock, Wilfrid M. Voynich, Dr V. C. Vaughan, Dr W. W. Browning.

Important changes in the by-laws, including the broadening of the library membership to include allied scientific libraries, the reclassification of membership to establish a new class for library workers and the election of officers by mail ballot.

Joint Meeting on Adult Education

The Institute on "Adult education and the library," which was held in Washington in May, just prior to the A. L. A. conference, was planned for those engaged in emphasizing the educational work that can be done for adults in libraries, large and small. There were nearly 100 interested persons present. Questionnaires had been sent out asking for suggestions as to topics to be discussed. Their response provided an interesting program.

At the first session, Dr Douglas Waples, of the Graduate Library school, University of Chicago, read a paper on What we don't know about libraries and adult education. He said that a library must decide whether or not it is to undertake an educational program. "If it does, it must identify the educational needs represented in its patronage and

regard those needs as objectives which govern the formulation of its policies. It must select books which apply to these needs, using methods of removing the difficulties which readers meet in attempting to apply books independently to their needs."

The adult education program, set up by the Commission on the library and adult education, outlined threefold activity: the organization of an information service concerning local opportunities for adult education, coöperation with other agencies offering adult education opportunities, and an intensive individual service to the serious adult reader.

Mr Jennings pointed out that the field of the library is not that of the teacher but that of an adviser and helper. Practical questions of organization of adult education departments in libraries, location of the readers' advisers office, hours of service, interrelation with the other departments of the library, keeping of records, follow-up methods, and the problem of book supply were recognized as important. He emphasized a study of book needs, the necessity of impressing on publishers the type of books needed, the extension of library instruction to teachers in Normal schools as to the service which libraries can offer students after graduation, and especially that the library program for adult education is based on voluntary effort and interest of those who seek its services.

At another session, the technique of helping the individual reader was analyzed. Some of the topics discussed at this time were: Types of reading courses, simplification of books, advisability of an exchange of courses between readers' advisers, the possibility of using magazine articles and readers' advisers' tools.

Attention was called to the book, *Readable books in many subjects*, by Miss Emma Felsenthal, which aims to bring together a list of books suitable for readers of limited education.

Radio as a means of extending reading interests was discussed but seemed to have limited appeal to the public. A number of organizations of college people were mentioned as being interested in adult education.

The meeting closed with a discussion of study groups and forums in their relation to the public library.

League of Library Commissions

Meetings in Washington

The League of library commissions held two sessions at the annual meeting at Washington, May 15 and 17, under the chairmanship of the president, C. B. Lester, of Wisconsin.

Essentials of a county library law was presented by Judson T. Jennings of Seattle. He stated that the law should provide for seven main items: 1) Establishment, 2) Government, 3) Financial support, 4) Flexibility, 5) Reports, 6) Location, 7) Dis-establishment. The three methods of bringing about the establishment are: 1) By direct vote, 2) By county commissioners on their own initiative, 3) By county commissioners upon petition of a certain per cent of qualified voters or tax-payers.

Under item 2, the library could be governed by a board of trustees or by the county commissioners as in at least one state, but probably the Board of Trustees is the best way. The law should define the duties of the governing board and of the librarian. Certification of the county librarian is required by ten states.

Item 3. The law should provide for financial support, and there should be a maximum and a minimum tax. Five states have a maximum tax only and five have the minimum tax.

Item 4. The flexibility of the law should provide: for the provision for the elimination of towns already having libraries from the county library system; for a town to contract with the county for partial or complete service and for a county to contract with a town to give

service to the rural population; for one county or more to contract with another county; in what body is vested the ownership of the property; for the prevention of a double tax on either town or county.

Item 5. The law should provide for a report to be made to the governing board whether county commissioners or library board or both.

Item 6. Mr Jennings did not think that the location of the headquarters' library should be determined by the law altho some states have this provision.

Item 7. Dis-establishment was not provided for in the Washington bill because they felt such a possibility should not be suggested.

Much discussion followed and many questions asked showed a keen interest in the subject.

Some financial problems of library service was presented by C. H. Milam, secretary of the A. L. A., in which he stated that only 51 county libraries had been established in the last three years and that something needs to be done to stimulate interest in the matter if we are to extend library service to the large rural populations now without access to book supplies. He felt we had suffered in the past from an inferiority complex and needed to come boldly out and evaluate such service for what it was really worth and endeavor to get adequate funds.

Campaigning for county library establishment was presented by Miss Pratt of Maryland. She stressed the fact that action in campaigning must be taken by the people themselves and that the province of the Commission was to arouse the desire for library service among the people. In a recent campaign in Maryland a woman had headed the movement and that she was present at this meeting showing her great interest in library advancement. In the discussion following, the question was asked if petitions were impressive or annoying and if they were

generally used, and the consensus of opinion seemed to be that in some cases they were desirable and in others not, and no rule obtained for all. The value of a demonstration book truck and slides was brought out as a means of getting the idea over.

The second session, opened, May 17, in the auditorium of the Corcoran art gallery with Mr Lester presiding, had 50 in attendance.

The plan for the classification of libraries in New York state was presented by Miss Brewster in Mr Tolman's absence. A scheme for the classification of libraries worked out from many different angles helps in the measuring of efficiency. Reports from the libraries help very much in working out such a scheme. A question was asked if the quality of the book collection could be measured in any such classification. While it would be a very valuable thing in bringing book collections up to a higher standard, it was felt that it would be a very difficult thing to do and not yet accomplished.

Dr R. R. Bowker was present at the meeting and Mr Lester called upon him to speak. Dr Bowker spoke of the importance of the Commission's function in giving advice and help not only to librarians thruout their states, but also in the training of library trustees and suggested the importance of getting them to attend the larger meetings, such as district, state and national.

Dr Bowker asked that the subject of book postal rates be discussed. He stated he had recently had an interview with the postal authorities and that few libraries were taking advantage of the rate which might result in the conviction that it was not worth while for the Government to continue it. He felt that the state commissions should stimulate applications for use of the special rate. It was suggested that Mr Bailey, as chairman of the Committee on postal rates, should urge libraries, especially those giv-

ing rural service, to apply. Mr Lester reported that Wisconsin had taken advantage of it and estimated a saving of \$1500 a year in postage. It was brought out in the general discussion that many libraries in the small towns and rural centers who had applied for the rate had been allowed it without their application getting beyond the local post office, and it was felt there were a great many more taking advantage of it than the records in Washington show.

Reports from the different states were followed by that of Miss Merrill, chairman of Library extension, A. L. A., who mentioned as coöperating agencies, the United States departments of education and agriculture, the General federation of women's clubs, National congress of parents and teachers, the Grange, the American association of adult education, rural churches, service clubs, and mentioned especially the contributions made by Anne Steele Richardson of the *Woman's Home Companion*, and Miss Lombard of the Bureau of Education.

The following officers were elected:

President, (2 yrs.), Mrs Lillian Griggs; vice-presidents, (1 yr.) Malcolm Wyer, Miss Fanny C. Rawson; member of the Executive board (3 yrs.), Mrs Elizabeth C. Earle.

A Test Case

The weekly news magazine, *Time*, the irritating stimulant for so many people, has announced the founding of a new publication under the name of *Fortune*.

According to the announcement, it is to be "the log-book, the critical history, the elaborately illustrated record of the Twentieth Century industrial civilization." *Fortune*, appealing as it does to the industrially inclined in every line of business, undoubtedly will find a place in public libraries.

Interesting Things in Print

The officers of the California School Library association, Northern section, have issued the first number of a *Bulle-*

tin in the hope that others may follow and that it may be a means of uniting the members thru the service such a bulletin gives.

The timeliness of the recent Henley book, *Aerial navigation and meteorology*, by Capt Lewis A. Yancey, recommends it to those who are "air-minded." The writer was the navigator of *Pathfinder* in its flight to Rome last July. He gives in this volume a practical manual for aircraft, pilots, navigation students and for the student with an average education. A welcome book for the reference shelf in the small library.

A report of the Sixth Area of the Office of Coordinator, in the report of the Federal Business associations, refers to a letter received from Purd B. Wright, librarian, Kansas City, Missouri, in which he comments on the need of a central Federal Information bureau in each large city. A suggestion of the report is that at the next meeting of each Federal Business association, 10 to 15 minutes be devoted to discussion of the question "How can the Government best meet the demand for Federal information in large cities? Why not expand the 'inquiry' window service at the main post office into a 'Federal information window?'" Suggestions requested.

The fifth volume of the new edition of Halkett and Laing's "Dictionary of anonymous and pseudonymous English literature," edited by James Kennedy, W. A. Smith and H. F. Johnson, has recently been published. This volume covers the letters Q to S inclusive and contains 406 pages, as against 237 pages for the same sections of the alphabet in the old edition. "Halkett and Laing" is a household term to bookmen generally and is an indispensable library tool. It has long been considered the highest authority on all questions of concealed authorship. The editors and publishers have performed a material service to scholarship in making available this care-

fully revised and greatly enlarged edition.

A pamphlet entitled *Training plans for junior executives* has been issued by the Policyholders Service bureau of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. It is a report dealing with the training courses which are finding successful application among those who are building up material for executive responsibility.

Many of the programs selected are described at length, including the firms, Standard Oil Company, Henry L. Doherty & Company, Jordan Marsh Company, R. H. Macy & Company and General Motors Corporation.

This publication has a place in the business branch libraries and may be secured on application to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, One Madison Avenue, New York City.

The Cleveland public library has issued a series of book lists for the library with rather interesting titles, as follows: *The Art of living*, *Keeping mentally fit*, *The American scene*, *Exploring for science*, *Judaism*, *Modes and manners*, *Books for tired eyes*, *Shakespeare*, *Aviation*, *The Story of light*, *Pathways to Art*, *What shall I read?*

Lists of books teaching the various presentations at theatres were issued during the summer.

The Cleveland public library has, also, issued a list prepared for the Edison celebration, October 21, under the title *Edison and the lamp*. This list includes books on the following subjects: *Edison—the man and his work*, *From rushlight to incandescent lamp*, *The Story of the lamp*, *Some applications of modern lighting*.

One of the releases for August 29, 1929, to the public press of the Department of the Interior, was a description of Library service in Hennepin county, Minnesota.

The basis of the description is an article in *School Life*, published by the

Bureau of Education, of the *modus operandi* by which the Minneapolis public library permits every resident of Hennepin county to draw books from the Minneapolis library. These books are lent on the same basis to county and city residents alike. After seven years of free service, the officials of the library discovered that the expense was too great and suggested that the county commissioners levy a tax. This tax of one mill was levied in 1922 and has been continued ever since.

A bibliography of government material having commercial, industrial and statistical value issued by various governmental bureaus, has been compiled under the direction of Marguerite Burnett of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

The material is listed alphabetically and indexed according to the individual bureau issuing it. A subject index gives a clew to the departmental publications and the type of information covered in each publication. The subject index shows the wide range of the material issued by the U. S. government. The intricate fashion in which the information relating to the nation's economic activity is issued, ("and notwithstanding that it is greater than that of any other government in the world,") makes this bibliography of much value.

The title of the bibliography is itself a useful bit of information, "Descriptive list for use in acquiring and discarding United States government periodical mimeographed statements." (Published at 11 Nisbet Street, Providence, R. I. Price \$1.75)

A recent note from Rebecca B. Rankin, librarian of the Municipal Reference library of New York City, gives some interesting information concerning the *Municipal Reference Library Notes*, the weekly publication issued by that library.

The Municipal Reference library is a branch of the New York public library

and has issued *Notes* for 15 years. The primary purpose of the publication is to serve the officials and the employes of the city of New York by informing them of the resources of their library, to give news of municipal activities, particularly of the local government and of what other large cities are doing in city affairs. The attention of city employes is called to such books and articles as may be of interest to them in their daily work. Libraries throughout the country have asked for it and second class matter privileges have been secured for it from the New York post office.

More and more libraries urge the Municipal Reference library to include names and addresses of sources from which any given title may be secured as they use the *Notes* as a check list and are at a disadvantage when ordering the titles checked. The manager of the *Notes* has not felt that they could include such information, and it is furnished by the *Wilson Index* for the convenience of librarians, and the *Public Affairs Information Service* furnish the majority of addresses for associations and publishers. It has been decided recently to include the name and addresses of a few titles with obscure sources. This will seem like an inconsistency but it is to be done as a favor to librarians.

A monthly list of New York publications which appears the second week of each month in the *Notes* is the only complete printed check list for documents in the city of New York. All requests for documents included in that list should be sent to the Municipal Reference library.

In the recital of the efforts made in a period of 25 years to secure national food and drug legislation, Dr H W Wiley, the eminent chemist, gives a very pungent story of the effect of mass action, in his recent volume, *The History of a crime*. Dr Wiley takes the title of his book from a similar work by Victor

Hugo wherein the latter tells the story, 20 years after it occurred, of the nullification of the political freedom, which the Revolution brought into being for awhile, by the man who was president of France for a time only long enough to enact the famous *coup d'etat*.

Dr Wiley's story opens with a recital of the work of a quarter of a century which brought the enactment of the famous "Food and Pure drugs law," which was passed, with only 4 Senate and 17 House votes in opposition, and which was signed by President Roosevelt, June 30, 1906. That part of the story tells in 50 p. how eminent organizations, men and women of the day, wrought the great work. The rest of the story tells in 350 p. how political maneuvers and personal desires destroyed that work until there is only a vestige of it remaining today.

Dr Wiley's greatest work has been given to the cause of pure food and unadulterated drugs and it is easy to understand how his soul must be stirred at the results which have come from the successful assaults on that great work by those in high places as well as by those who profit by that success.

"The History of a crime" is a fascinating recital which like so many of today make one wonder if one can be as proud of his Public Service as he wants to be.

Mr Bliss' Organization of Knowledge

The Organization of knowledge and the system of the sciences, Henry Evelyn Bliss. New York, Holt, 1929. pp. XX + 433. \$5

The purpose of the author in writing this book is to show how libraries may be made better instruments of scientific advancement and of the propagation of knowledge. The improvement is to be brought about by reforming the classification system and bringing it into harmony with the classification of the sciences themselves.

The reader arrives at the author's classification system about three-quarters

of the way through the book. It comes at the end of the third of four parts. Part I, of 113 pages, is entitled "The Organization of Knowledge." It takes a long running start by discussing organization in every conceivable connection. Its ostensible purpose is to show that organization is the prevailing method which is employed in all types of social undertakings with the inference that when knowledge is more effectively organized it will be a better instrument for the promotion of these undertakings. It is undoubtedly true that organized knowledge is a better instrument of social organization than is unorganized knowledge. But it is equally more effective as an instrument of individualistic undertakings. The connection between the different forms of organization the author describes seems highly artificial. Moreover, he takes occasion to express his views on a great variety of questions, including such practical social problems as freedom, lawlessness, and the modern youth at the one extreme, and such theoretical problems as critical realism and the theory of relativity at the other. The connection between these and the central theme of the book is hard to see.

The second part, entitled *Classification, Synthesis and the Order of Nature* is a long disquisition on the psychology and logic of classes, concepts, definitions, relations, synthesis, etc. It fails to throw much more light on the problem of classification of the sciences or of the organization of knowledge than does the discussion of organization in the first part. There is a prolixity of definition making and of logic chopping. The possible connection between the formal treatment of the psychology and logic of the mental process of classifying, which occupies this part; and the development of a classification scheme is closer than that of Part I. The author, however, fails to make such connection very evident, and such connection as exists could

be brought out better in a brief, compact discussion.

The central portion of the book is contained in Part III, *The System of the Sciences*. The discussion of this subject is also prolix but it does make a contribution to the general problem. The author first discusses various orders of sciences, such as special sciences, branches, sub-sciences, composite sciences and applied sciences. He next discusses the various principles on which the sciences may be arranged in order, such as degree of generality or of specialization, and the dependence of one science on another. At this point he undertakes to show that there is a close relation between five orders, which he calls the order of nature, the developmental order of knowledge, the pedagogic order, the logical order and the order by specialty. The last two are practically identical and it is difficult to see the distinction between them. The relation between the others is doubtful. The remainder of the chapter is a presentation of the author's own scheme in detail. This scheme will be described later.

The last part of the book is devoted to a rather detailed, historical account of various classifications of the sciences. The account opens with a description of the Greek Triad, the mediaeval Trivium and Quadrivium and the systems of Bacon and Hobbes. It includes Leibnitz, Kant, Arnott and Ampere. It gives special attention to Comte, Spencer and Wundt. It criticizes the system which Münsterberg drew up for the Congress of Arts and Sciences at St. Louis in 1904. It compares the author's arrangement with the classification represented in the sections of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. This part would have been more effective as an introduction to the description of the author's own system.

That the reform in the classification schemes in use in libraries, particularly those which are commonly used in schol-

arly pursuits is desirable, may perhaps be admitted with little question. The author of a new scheme should, however, not take this important point for granted, but should establish it beyond question. This Mr Bliss fails to do. He traces very briefly the history of the two prevailing systems in the United States, the Dewey Decimal and the Library of Congress systems, and comments on their unscientific character. In addition to this, he should have made an analysis of these present systems and a detailed statement of the contract between them and the new one. Since he admits that to change a classification system is a very expensive undertaking, his proposal would have greater weight if it contained a detailed critique at least of the Dewey Decimal and the Library of Congress systems. He devotes much space to the history of attempts to classify the sciences, going back to Plato and Aristotle and including a host of mediaeval and pre-scientific writers, attempts which are of little more than academic interest, and fails even to reproduce the systems in actual use at the present time. He does promise "later to substantiate" (p. 108) his brief strictures on these systems, but he fails to do so in the present volume. If such substantiation is reserved for a later volume, it would much better have been presented as a prelude to the author's own scheme.

The book is devoted more largely to a discussion of the basis for classification than of classification itself. The basis of classification is found in science, and the classification of the sciences is taken as the skeleton for the classification of all knowledge and literature. Science is regarded as mirroring the order of nature, and the order of nature, represented in the logical order of the sciences, is held to agree with the historical order of the development of the sciences as well as with the pedagogic order of their presentation in education. Thus the basic classification is regarded

as fixed and permanent, once it has been discovered.

The order of the sciences, however, admitting that it may be accepted as substantially correct, gives the scheme for the classification of strictly scientific literature only. The classification of all other types of literature, philosophy, history, *belles lettres*, etc., must fall outside the classification of the sciences themselves. Mr Bliss provides for these other subjects by means of a cross classification scheme. The list of the sciences, arranged in the order of their specialization and derivation, forms the backbone of the system. This list is placed in vertical column. Beside this list, in three other columns, are arranged classes under the headings, philosophy, history and applied sciences. Each class under the head of philosophy is related to one of the classes of science. For example, the philosophy of nature is related to the class, natural sciences. Similarly each class under history and applied sciences is related to one of the sciences. For example, eugenics is listed as an applied science related to genetics, education is the applied science related to psychology, and missions is the applied science related to religion.

It is the reviewer's opinion that the system of classification presented by Mr Bliss is more orderly and useful than are the prevailing systems. This, however, is lay opinion, and is based on inspection of the systems rather than on evidence of their comparative value presented by Mr Bliss. If the reviewer may venture a further expression of lay opinion, Mr Bliss has not worked out a final solution of the problem of classification. His classification of the sciences themselves is doubtless approximately correct, though he has made decisions concerning the placing of particular sciences which are at least in some measure arbitrary and on which opinions may differ. Thus psychology is put among the anthropological sciences, which

hardly provides adequately for animal psychology. Again ethnology is put under sociology rather than under anthropology. Religion, ethics and mythology are listed as sciences. Some, at least, would doubt whether these disciplines have attained to the rank of sciences. Other questions arise as to the association of the various "applied sciences" (including church work, missions, philanthropy, practical politics, the practice of law, grammar, oratory, criticism) with the corresponding sciences. It is a question whether all literature can be classified under one of the four heads and whether all phases of philosophy, history and so-called applied science can be brought into immediate relation with some particular branch of science.

The attempt to work out a system on the lines which Mr Bliss has followed is interesting and makes a valuable contribution to the theory and practice of the subject. In view of the many difficulties which the task presents, in view of the fact that many compromise decisions must be made due to the manifold interrelations of subjects and in view of the large vested interests involved, it would seem that we are faced with a problem which can be solved only by the method of social organization which Mr Bliss shows is so characteristic of modern life. It is not a one-man job. It should be attacked by a group in which are represented technical librarians, scientists in the various fields including especially psychologists, historians, and specialists in education. Such a group, with adequate financial support, could take Mr Bliss's scheme as a starting point and could work out a system which would have a fair chance of supplanting the present systems and serving as a permanent means of the classification of knowledge as well as of the classification of materials in libraries.

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The Library Journal, September 1, No. 15, is "The International Number." The chief presentation, of much interest, relates to the Library Congress held in Italy, Rome and Venice last year.

The author, Dr Theodore W. Koch, in his inimitable fashion, gives such a review of the meetings and the principal events of it, as only he can do. The pictures which supplement Dr Koch's article add greatly to its value. The social lights are touched upon—the distinguished Italians who were present, the dinners to the official delegates and distinguished visitors, but standing first of all, was the visit and cordial welcome to the visitors, of Signor Mussolini. Signor Mussolini's reception was exceeded in interest by his speech. The King received the official delegates, the presidents of the sections, the members of the committees and other distinguished persons present, greeting each one personally.

Dr Koch gives a running resumé of the various sections, speaking appraisingly of Dr Bishop's presentation of the subject of interchange of librarians. The section on library schools, he tells us, was presided over by Dr Andrew Keogh and tho nothing seems to be reported concerning American library schools, a number of Italian schools are mentioned as well as those of Brussels, Russia and France.

The high spot of the reception, perhaps, rested on the afternoon when members were received by Pope Pius XI in the Sistine hall of the Vatican library. "The Holy Father made the rounds of the entire assembly and shook hands with each person, greeting some old acquaintances and being introduced to the others by Senator Cippico." The Pope referred to the visitors as his former "colleagues," saying he used the word with special pleasure because of "tasting the beauty and sweetness of this fellowship." As an old librarian, he was happy

to greet all because of the pleasure the visit gave him.

The Naples section opened with a bibliographical exhibit in the National library, located in the Royal palace. This exhibit was limited to Southern Italy and Sicily. Dr Koch gives a rather extended description of it.

He tells of the closing sessions on Saturday and Sunday in Venice in the main reading room of the Biblioteca Marciana. Here, Dr Koch recites *in extenso*, the amendments to the statutes adopted at Edinburgh in 1927, looking toward the change of the name of the body organized then to that of International Federation of Library Associations.

A special visit was made to the newly opened exhibition room in the Marciana library where the host of the occasion spoke of the glory of Venice reaching from the time of Petrarch thru the period of the first Venetian judicial documents to the introduction of printing. The information concerning the treasures of the Venetian bibliographers and the treasures which the libraries have, was mostly the story of the printing art connected with the noted names, Aldine, Tasso, Ariosto and others, together with the story of the monastic libraries. About 13,000 mss. and half a million books are in the treasures of the Biblioteca Marciana.

Dr Koch promises, in closing his article, that it will be continued.

Firms With Fair Dealing

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The Vatican Library

The reorganization of the Vatican library, initiated with so much energy and enthusiasm by the present Pope, is of especial interest to American librarians because of the American forces participating in that undertaking. When the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace offered, in 1926, to extend financial aid for the preparation of certain indexes and catalogs as a step towards modernizing the great Library, the Pope, himself a librarian of long experience and for nearly four years Prefect of the Vatican library, promptly accepted the offer and converted it into an opportunity to introduce larger improvements. The visit to America, in 1927, of Monsignor Eugene Tisserant, curator of Oriental manuscripts, was the first step in the development of the program, and the report on American libraries made to the Pope by that keen and competent observer has been described by those who read it as a marvelously searching survey of our methods and activities. There followed Dr. W. W. Bishop's visit to Rome and his subsequent return thither, in 1928, accompanied by Messrs Hanson, Martel and Randall for a four-months' period of preliminary work, while a similar delegation of librarians from the Vatican staff spent a corresponding period in various American libraries. And when the Librarian-Pope, whose personal attention was bestowed upon the project, discovered that among the most urgent needs was more room (familiar condition!) and decreed the use of a long gallery built in 1512 for a promenade and more recently used as the pontifical stables, it was an American firm that secured the contract for equipping the new space with modern steel library bookstacks. A three-tier stack aggregating seven miles of shelves was installed, the first column being set on August 24, 1928 and the work completed on December 20, and dedicated by Pope

Pius on the same day, the beginning of his year of jubilee.

The stack builders, Messrs Snead and Company of Jersey City, have now, with justifiable pride, issued an attractively printed booklet entitled *The Vatican library*, comprising two scholarly papers on its history and bibliographical treasures, written by Mgr Tisserant and Dr T. W. Koch, librarian of Northwestern University. Prepared primarily for presentation to the delegates and visitors to the International congress of bibliography and librarianship, at this writing in session in Rome, the brochure will be received with interest by a wider circle of readers. The story of the accumulation of these splendid collections, by gift, by purchase, by conquest, and sometimes by plain "abstraction," is related with much charm and entertaining detail. The first Vatican library, comprising some 3500 volumes, was established by Sixtus IV. in 1475. Succeeding popes, not all imbued with uniform zeal, nor always in command of favorable opportunities, for the enrichment of the library, made contributions of varying importance. Valuable private libraries were presented by their munificent owners. Others of equal or greater value were sent to Rome as tributes by conquering princes. Still others, whole libraries as well as single volumes, were added by bookloving pontiffs, often by purchase, but sometimes by less praise-worthy means, as in the case of the precious manuscript of the *Annals of Tacitus*, which was plainly the property of a monastery, but which was appropriated by a papal bibliophile, Leo X., who sent the abbot in return a copy of the printed edition made therefrom.

Kept intact from century to century, and jealously guarded,—tho not without an occasional gap representing a book "borrowed and not returned"—the Vatican library now numbers some 500,000 volumes of which no less than 7000 are incunabula! Of manuscripts, many of

them unique and priceless, there are upwards of 60,000, not a few still in bundles and packets as they were acquired thru the ages. Numerically there are many modern libraries of larger proportions, but the incredible richness of the Vatican collections, now to be made more accessible thru the application of modern library methods, sets this library apart forever as the most important treasure-house of the human spirit existing in the world. One can but envy the catalogers, of whatever nation, to whose lot will fall the tremendous and thrilling task of exploring and organizing this vast assemblage of bibliographical wealth.

A pleasing snapshot of His Holiness on a visit of inspection thru the new bookstacks forms the frontispiece of this attractive brochure. Other illustrations include portraits, among them one of Cardinal Ehrle, the first "modern" librarian of the Vatican, and views and plans of the library. The booklet is issued for free distribution and probably in a limited number of copies. It is well worth having, both as a readable account of a great library and as a record of recognition and accomplishment of American librarianship and craftsmanship.

C. B. RODEN

25 June, 1929.

A Skilful Reader:

- 1) Reads with a definite purpose, a problem, in mind.
- 2) Grasps the author's point of view and central theme.
- 3) Lays hold of the order and arrangement of the author's ideas.
- 4) Pauses occasionally for summarizing and repeating.
- 5) Constantly asks questions of his reading.
- 6) Continually supplements from his own mental stock.
- 7) Evaluates the worth of what he reads.
- 8) Varies the rate of his progress thru the reading.
- 9) Ties up what he reads with problems of his own.

Rollo L. Lyman
University of Chicago

Library Schools

Atlanta library school

The Atlanta library school opens its twenty-fifth year with a record enrollment of 40 students.

Georgia has the largest representation in the class, with 16 students. Seven are enrolled from South Carolina, and others from North Carolina, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, Virginia and Michigan. Four students are graduates of Wesleyan, three of Agnes Scott, three of Shorter and two of the University of Georgia, the others coming from widely scattered colleges.

Graduates hold positions of responsibility in library work in all parts of the country. Florence Bradley is president of the Special Libraries association with offices in New York City. Mrs Lillian B. Griggs is executive secretary of the North Carolina library commission. Katherine Payne Carnes has been awarded a fellowship by the Carnegie Corporation for graduate study in the University of Michigan. Beverly Wheatcroft is secretary of the Georgia State library commission.

Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh

School opened, September 17, with an enrollment of 51 full-time students and three part-time students. It was necessary to turn away numerous applicants who applied too late for admission. Ninety per cent of this year's class are college graduates or as academic library students will receive their degrees from their respective colleges at the end of the library school course. Six members of the class have had from two months to eight years library experience. Fifteen colleges are represented by graduates and students have registered from 10 states.

The curriculum as revised last year goes into effect with the opening of this term. Under the new arrangement the students are divided into courses for the whole year, instead of concentrating the

specialized work in the second semester. Twenty-eight students have elected library work with children, 17 general library work, and nine library work with schools.

The personnel of the faculty remains the same, with the addition of Miss Elizabeth Nesbitt as instructor in the course in Library work with children. During the summer each member of the faculty was engaged in teaching.

Recent appointments of the class of 1929:

Alfreda C. Handke, assistant children's librarian, Public library, Oak Park, Illinois.
Aneitha Hughes, children's librarian, Public library, Sewickley.

Elsie F. Schmidt, supervisor of teachers reference work, Public library, Queens Borough, New York City.

Roberta Shand, librarian, Free library, Kittanning.

Emily Mae Thomas, assistant cataloger, Yale Law School library, New Haven, Conn.

Joan Docker Wright, assistant, Public library, Lockport, N. Y.

FRANCES H. KELLY
Principal

Los Angeles public library

Miss Grace Hill, who has been principal of the school for several years, on July 5, became librarian of the Central high school, Kansas City, Missouri.

A short course for junior assistants was conducted during July and August. Twenty-eight completed this course.

Of the 34 graduates of last year's class, six are in children's work in the Los Angeles system, seven others have positions outside of Los Angeles, one is traveling in Europe and the others have entered the service of the Los Angeles public library.

FAITH E. SMITH
Principal

The Los Angeles public library announces the following changes in the staff which took place on August 1:

Grace Hill, principal of the Library school, 1928-1929, has resigned to accept a position in the Kansas City public library. Faith Smith who returned to the library in

1927 to establish the department of Philosophy and religion, has been appointed principal of the Los Angeles library school. Louise E. Jones, who has been principal of the Adult Education department since the establishment of this department, three years ago, has been transferred to the principalship of the Philosophy and Religion department. Mary Alice Boyd, principal attendant of the Adult Education department, has been appointed the principal of the department.

Among the branch librarians, Mrs Jessie Cavanaugh, who has been librarian of the Vermont Square branch for the past 10 years, has been appointed to the new branch, Felipe de Neve library, in Lafayette Park. Helen E. Spotts, formerly of Jefferson branch, is librarian at Vermont Square and Bessie Marxon, formerly of the Pio Pico branch staff, has been made librarian of Jefferson branch.

St Louis public library

We regret to record the resignation from the faculty, of Margaret E. Vinton who goes to A. L. A. headquarters as general assistant of the Board of Education. Her position will be filled by Mrs Mary Jewett Gilbert, who was a member of the faculty during Mrs Sawyer's absence, 1925-1926. She is a graduate of the St Louis library school, '23, has had experience in the cataloging department, circulation department, with the Readers' advisory service, and as first assistant, Cabanne branch library. She will teach cataloging and book selection the first semester.

Leon Carnovsky, '28, has been awarded a fellowship by the Carnegie Corporation and has entered the Graduate library school, University of Chicago.

Ellen M. Querl, '29, has been appointed children's librarian, Public library, Webster Groves.

Dorothy Moorman, '29, has joined the staff of the Public library, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Florence A. Miller, '29, has been appointed High School librarian, Racine, Wisconsin.

Agnes F. Hassell, '29, children's librarian, Portland, Oregon.

Golda E. Taylor, '29, has been appointed assistant librarian, Lindenwood College, St. Charles.

The class of 1929 gave 16 assistants to the staff of the St Louis public library.

HARRIET P. SAWYER
Principal

Western Reserve University

The twenty-sixth year of the School of library science began on September 17. The school again registers the maximum number of students—15 in the senior children's course, 40 in the graduate group and 20 in the undergraduate group, a total of 75. Election of the Junior Children's course or the High School course will be made by students shortly after the beginning of the term.

New members of the faculty, besides the Dean, Herbert S. Hirshberg, are Katherine C. Cook, '29, and Ruth Theobald, instructors and revisers. Blanche V. Watts, assistant-professor, and Blanche A. Smith, instructor, of the Cleveland College faculty, will give part-time instruction in the school.

Closer coordination of the work of Cleveland College and the school is being effected, and credits are now allowed interchangeably.

Appointments of alumni

Sylvia De Vis, '19, librarian of Laurel School library, South Euclid.

Edna Giesler, '21, branch librarian, Toledo public library.

Frances M. Christeson, '24, reference librarian, University of Southern California.

Jessie De Shong, '25, librarian, Rice Branch library, Cleveland.

Eleanor Ricker, '25, Public library, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Cora M. Beatty, '26, membership secretary, American Library Association.

Alice A. Davitt, '26 (Ch.), children's librarian, Howard Whittemore Memorial library, Naugatuck, Conn.

Lydia Heller, '28, assistant, Carnegie Institute library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Helen M. Friedman, '29, assistant, Cleveland Heights public library.

Adeline Gilbert, '29, Public library, Davenport, Iowa.

Kathleen V. Hostetler, '29, cataloger, Barber public library, Barberton.

Helen E. Wheeler, '29, librarian, Woodrow Wilson Memorial library, New York City.

Recent marriages of graduates

Eliza Wood, '21, to Louis J. Greve, June 27.

Margaret Reed, '26, to M. J. Shea, July 2.

Doris Pletscher, '27, to Otto Lutherer, August 12.

Astrid T. Fadum, '28, to Ragnar Knutsen, April 27.

Ona Nyemaster, '28, to Nicholas Smoley, June 24.

The tragic death of Thelma Martin, '24, librarian of the Greenlake Branch of the Seattle public library, who was frozen to death while on a mountain climbing expedition on August 18, is recorded to the great sorrow of her friends and associates in the school.

HERBERT S. HIRSHBERG

Dean

North Carolina

A one-year's course in library science at the North Carolina College for Women at Greensboro, N. C., has graduated with A. B., the following, all of whom have been assigned to positions: Misses Sarah Ashcraft, Beulah Allen, Kathryn Freeman, Dora Ruth Parks, Elizabeth Smith.

There have been more applicants this year for entrance than can be accommodated.

Summer schools

Library problems peculiar to Catholic schools and colleges were discussed at the meetings of the Library section of the National Catholic Educational association held in Toledo, June 24-27.

There were papers and discussions relating to the choice of main entries and the selection of subject headings for ecclesiastical literature. The general feeling of the group was that the time has arrived for a more thorough and scholarly treatment of this literature in library cataloging practice.

It was recommended that a commission be appointed to make a careful study of these problems, and to prepare rules and aids for cataloging ecclesiastical literature in such a manner as to secure a more effective use of this material than has heretofore been possible.

Mr Carl Vitz, Public library, Toledo, and Mr Earl N. Manchester, Ohio State University, Columbus, took active parts in the meetings as official representatives of the American Library Association.

The officers elected for the ensuing year are:

Chairman, Francis E. Fitzgerald, St. Thomas College, Scranton, Penn.; vice chairman, Ven. Sr. M. Reparata, O.P., Rosary College, River Forest, Ill.; secretary, Ven. Bro. Francis H. Ruhlman, S.M., University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio.

Carnegie library school

The Summer session held from July 1-August 10, enrolled 48 students, registered from 11 states and the District of Columbia. The school was under the supervision of Martha Pritchard, director of the Library school of the New York State Teachers College.

Miss Elva Smith's class in Book selection for boys and girls had an enrollment of 40, the largest in any one class, showing the great interest in children's literature. A course which met a real need in elementary school library work was Miss Pritchard's course in the Administration of the elementary or platoon school library. The value of this course was further enhanced by a co-operative plan with the University of Pittsburgh in a demonstration library at the Henry C. Frick Teachers training school. The demonstration library was conducted by Laura C. Bailey. This plan gave the students opportunity for observation and actual participation in the work of the library.

Drexel Institute

The summer course for school librarians completed a successful six weeks session with 38 students from the teaching and library professions, representing the states of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Ohio, Tennessee and Texas. Of these, 11 students took the advanced work and completed the 12 credits necessary for Pennsylvania state certification.

ANNE W. HOWLAND
Director

University of Illinois

There were 101 registered for the eight weeks summer courses in library

science. Of these, 21 were attending their second or third summer session here.

Of the 77 first year Library School students, 24 were employed in college and university libraries, 13 were in public libraries and 19 were in school libraries; 21 were from Illinois libraries and the others came from 18 other states. Six students completed the required work, and received the degree B.S. in library science.

Of the 12 students registered in the Graduate school for second year work in library science, three completed the work and received the degree of M.A.

Twelve students registered in the courses for high school graduates, chiefly from Illinois public libraries.

Instruction was given by seven full time faculty members.

P. L. WINDSOR

University of Iowa

Fifty-five students attended the Library school which was held at Iowa City during June and July. Of these, 42 took the full course, and nine others more than half the courses offered. Twelve states were represented in the enrollment. Altho high school graduation is the requirement, a fair number of the students had college degrees, and nearly half had had library experience of one year or more.

The faculty included Emma Felsenthal, acting director; Julia A. Robinson, secretary of the Iowa library commission; Margery Doud of the St. Louis public library; Anne Morris Boyd of the University of Illinois library school; Janet Arie, School librarian, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Gladys F. Pratt, librarian, Westfield Normal School, Massachusetts.

University of Minnesota

Thirty-eight students completed the full year of professional training offered by the Division of Library Instruction of the University of Minnesota.

Of the 38 library students who finished the library course in the University of Minnesota, 31 are in library positions or have been definitely appointed to one. They will go into eight states.

Department of School Libraries

The youth who passes from school without acquiring the skill and habit of using his library for both pleasure and knowledge has been woefully mistaught.—W. S. Learned.

School Library Visions¹

Margaret V. Girdner, librarian, Galileo high school, San Francisco, Calif.

The position of the school librarian in the present educational system is a rather interesting one, because we are in a transitional period in the history of educational theory. The entrance of the library into the school has been within very recent times, and it was an accident from the standpoint of the educationist. The work of the public library through its children's department had been so successful, that it was a natural result to introduce this feature within the school for its value in the teaching of good recreational reading habits and for the influence in improving the reading tastes. Thus, the influence of the public library was carried into the school, and in many cases a small public library was erected within the school, sometimes under the direction of a teacher with enlarged vision, but more often under a librarian trained in the methods and procedure of the public library.

This valuable contribution of these pioneer librarians began to attract the attention of the administrators and teachers, and the library within the school began to function to enrich and supplement the offering, which up to this time had been limited to the textbook and the limit of the teacher's experience. But the students still turned to the library as they would to the public library, and the librarian too frequently remained a public librarian trained in the technique of the craft and imbued with the spirit of service; still not realizing her relation to this idea of an enriched curriculum offering, and in a great many cases even resisting the efforts of the

school people to draw her into coöperation in studying their problems. So while libraries have grown in numbers, they are too frequently libraries within the walls of the curriculum. Within the last decade we have been awakened to our isolated position, and school librarians are beginning to study these questions of relationships and tremendous opportunities and to build up school libraries in the real sense of the word. We are realizing that we have been so busy with our service that we have not given sufficient expressions to our ideals and objectives. In the meantime, we have allowed the educator, only vaguely aware of the uses, the functions and possibilities of the school library, and who is yet disappointed in our silence, to represent us in print. It is interesting to study the literature of the educational value of the school library as it has been presented to the meetings of school men, and note that if there is mention of the library in the *Proceedings* or in the year-books, the material is from the pens of these school men.

In our thinking we have set up three objectives for the school library which are fairly universally accepted:

- 1.) To enrich the curriculum—to offer a wider reference opportunity.
- 2.) To develop in the student the power to use books as tools.
- 3.) To build up an appreciation of books in general for avocational interests.

These have been fairly well maintained, but how are they to be tied up to these new methods of teaching which are being introduced? The entire method of instruction is being changed with the introduction of the new type of recitation. In the days when we were in school, we were assigned certain pages

¹Read at C. L. A. meeting at Sacramento, May 6, 1929.

in a textbook to read and the next day we came back and repeated the facts to the teacher, who supplemented our information from her own experience. How different it is today! Now the class, influenced by the teacher, selects a subject in which they are interested; the teacher assigns certain phases of the subjects to groups of students, and the children are turned to a collection of books to find the facts which are then reported to the entire class for discussion and analysis.

Instead of one book, they use many, and the product of the exercise is an organized body of factual material tested by judgment—their own. This type of instruction would seem to offer the great opportunity to the library in the school, but in reality it has within it the seed of its destruction. The educator experimenting with this new agency of instruction, without the coöperation of the library workers, has evolved a system of class centered recitation which tends to decentralize the library, if not destroy it.

The so-called Morrison plan is being introduced to several of the schools of Northern California, and is now a subject of study for the school librarians. Under this plan, the pupils are not sent to the library for use of the books to seek facts, but collections of books, library units, as they are called, are sent to the classroom; and the preparation is not made under the direction and guidance of the librarian, but with the supervision of the teacher. The student is no longer influenced to go to the library, and the whole school library offering is influenced in three conspicuous ways:

1.) We like to think that in the school libraries we are training the pupils to a future power through present activity; that by going to the central school library for the supplementary material for his preparation, we are so training him to turn in future life without the school, to the public library for self education. If we are to remove this

necessity of the child, how are we to know that he will naturally turn to the public library in adult life? In other words, we are not training for independence in the use of books with this new method.

2.) Instead of being an important influence in the school, we shall develop the library into a shipping department, sending out sets of books to classrooms, and the teacher will enjoy those advantages which draw librarians into school work—the joy of leading the student into this adventure of exploration. We shall lose this opportunity to expose the child to this multiple contact activity which will lead him into new life appreciations.

3.) This type of teaching in its destruction of the central library will tend to discourage good librarians. With the selection of books removed, with library use decreased by over one-half, with attendant pupil contact removed, the position will tend to become merely clerical and unattractive to the true librarian.

Another problem which is agitating school librarians is the question of the handling of textbooks. Most librarians will try to avoid this task, because they feel that it does not combine well with that atmospheric ideal of librarianship which we cannot connect with the earlier type of school librarianship. Also they feel it will take time which might better be devoted to the true library work.

In the minds of other librarians another picture of school service has grown up. We think of a book specialist, trained in the technique which makes for intelligent use of books, and with a knowledge of the objectives of instruction and an appreciation of the curriculum offering—the only teacher who comes into direct contact with every pupil in the school. To whom should any question concerning textbooks be turned rather than to the librarian—this book specialist? Why should the textbooks be turned to the Commercial department, for instance? True, it is a clerical task,

out I remember when I studied the Dewey decimal classification, I learned that the history of art went under the subject art instead of history; in other words, the subject is more important than the method. Why should not the librarian trained in the purchase, selection, and distribution of material, handle and supervise the whole supply of materials of instruction. She need not do the actual labor which can be turned over to the clerk, but she should be the supervisor. Thus with an enlargement of responsibility, the position of the librarian in the school would tend to become more important—a position ranking with those of the present administrative staff. She has an opportunity to develop beyond the exercising of influence; to develop into a real directing force. This would call for an increased number of librarians and might even lead to a specialization within the field offering positions, such as administration, reference, readers guides, and teacher's assistants. The possibilities are enormous, and a realization can only be avoided by an evasion of the attendant responsibilities.

School librarians are interested in the training of teachers, in the teacher training institutions, both elementary and secondary. Until these teachers are taught in their preparation the possibilities of the library in their school work, the full value of the library can not be realized. This question should also be of interest to the county librarians who spend so much time and energy each year in training the new teachers in the possibilities of their service. This should be a charge upon the educational funds, rather than upon the county budget. School librarians are interested in this training of the teachers.

The question of a state school-library supervisor and a state wide system of supervisors is of interest to school people. It is amazing to discover that a great per cent of the schools in the state are without any type of school library,

and often these schools are in communities where there is no adequate public or county library service. And even if there is good library service in the community, why should this service to the school be a charge upon its funds? Why should an adult public be limited by inroads upon a budget for expenses which are a debt upon school funds?

Recent Worth While Additions to Children's Literature¹

Practical books

- Adams, Cork ships and how to make them. Dutton
 —Gateway to American history. Little
 —Pilgrims, Indians and Patriots. Little
 Allen, Model airplanes: How to build and fly them. Stokes
 Auslander & Hill, Winged horse. Doubleday
 Bazin, Juniper farm. Macmillan
 Binger, What engineers do. Norton
 Byrd, Skyward. Putnam
 Camm, Model aeroplanes. Funk & Wagnalls
 Charnley, Boy's life of the Wright brothers. Harper
 Crew, Saturday's children. Little
 Crump, Boy's book of airmen. Dodd
 Daglish, The larger beasts. Morrow
 —The smaller beasts. Morrow
 Darrow, St Nicholas book of science. Century
 Davies, Outline history of the world. Oxford
 Dobias, Picture book of flying. Macmillan
 Dombrowski, Boga the elephant. Macmillan
 Douglas, Martin & Oliver, Three boy scouts in Africa. Putnam
 Earhart, 20 hrs. 40 min. Putnam
 Emerson, Adventures of Theodore Roosevelt. Dutton
 Finger, Heroes from Hakluyt. Holt
 Fox, In old California. Macmillan
 Fraser, Heroes of the air. Crowell
 —Story of engineering in America. Crowell
 Fuller, Halsey in the West Indies. Putnam
 Garber, Building and flying model airplanes. Ronald Press
 Green, Dick Byrd, air explorer. Putnam
 —Martin Johnson, lion hunter. Putnam
 Hamburg, Beginning to fly. Houghton
 Hawks, Boy's book of remarkable machinery. Dodd
 Hill and Maxwell, Little Tonino. Macmillan
 Hillyer, Child's history of the world. Century
 Holland, Historic airships. Macrae

¹ List of books mentioned by Evelyn T. Ross in paper at C. L. A. meeting at Sacramento, May, 1929.

Hough, Story of fire. Doubleday
 Irving, Knickerbocker's history of New York. Doubleday
 Jacobs, Knights of the wing. Century
 Johnson, On Safari. Putnam
 Jones, Alphabet of aviation. Macrae
 King-Hall, Child's story of civilisation. Morrow
 Klemm, If you want to fly. Howard-McCann
 Knipe, Story of old Ironsides. Dodd
 Lansing, Great moments in exploration. Doubleday
 —Great moments in science. Doubleday
 Laughlin, Where it all comes true in Italy and Switzerland. Houghton
 LePage, A B C of flight. Wiley
 Lindberg, We. Putnam
 Lomen & Flack, Taktuk, an Arctic boy. Doubleday
 Meigs, Wonderful locomotive. Macmillan
 Macmillan, Art of flying. Mitchell
 Miller, Children of the mountain eagle. Doubleday
 Mukerji, Ghond, the hunter. Dutton
 —Gay Neck, story of a pigeon. Dutton
 Neumann, Timothy travels. Coward
 Page, Everybody's aviation guide. Henley
 Paine, Girl in white armor. Macmillan
 Palmer, Abdul, story of an Egyptian boy. Macmillan
 Parker, Book of electricity. Houghton
 Peck, Storybook Europe. Harper
 Pritchard, Book of the aeroplane. Longmans
 Quinn, Exciting adventures of Captain John Smith. Stokes
 Read, Airplane ride. Scribners
 Rogers, Drake's quest. Doubleday
 Roosevelt, Theodore Roosevelt's diaries of boyhood and youth. Scribners
 Salten, Bambi. Simon Schuster
 Sandburg, Abe Lincoln grows up. Harcourt
 Seymour, Boy's life of Fremont. Century
 Sherwood, Road to Cathay. Macmillan
 Smalley, Rice to rice pudding. Morrow
 Studley, Practical flight training. Macmillan
 Tietjens, Boy of the desert. Coward
 Thomas, Adventures in Afghanistan for boys. Century
 Thomas, Count Luckner, sea devil. Doubleday
 Upjohn, Friends in strange garments. Houghton
 Van Loon, Man the miracle maker. Liveright
 Williams, Conquering the air. Nelson
 West, Lone scout of the sky, Boys Scouts of America

A Community Center

The report of the library service rendered by the schools at Richard City, Tennessee, is of interest. The library was dedicated at the meeting of the

Southeastern library association attended by the executive officers and several important committees of the A. L. A. in the spring of 1926.

The library serves both the school and the community, the latter made up of those connected there with the Portland cement interests. The beautiful school and community building is used for all sorts of things that are interesting and of value. The library was opened in 1926 and has more than doubled its circulation during this time. It is plainly developing a love of books. A higher type of literature is chosen and the progress of the young people of the community is remarkable. An increasing number of adults are doing regular systematic reading and all of it is an outstanding example of what can be done where there is a unified reading program and an abundant supply of books.

School Librarians, Attention!

At the 1928 A. L. A. conference, the Children's and School Librarians' sections voted to send a collection of children's books to the Lincoln library in Mexico City. Part of the gift—"One Hundred Representative Children's Books"—was on exhibit at Washington. That collection, containing many beautiful editions, represented gifts from many publishers who responded very generously to requests for books.

Funds are now needed to defray the expenses of a picture book collection which it was decided to send in addition to the more general collection of children's books and which represents the real gift of the members of the sections. The Children's section at Washington voted very generously to defray half the amount needed (about \$150). Our section, alas, does not have funds to meet our share but we have already received some contributions from interested librarians.

Dues from school librarians have been collected in a rather desultory fashion at

the annual conferences, and come from a small proportion of our members. Surely there are many others who would like to become active members of the section and perhaps share also in this friendly gift to the boys and girls of Mexico. The constitution specifies 50 cents as annual dues. This may be sent in stamps, check or money order to the secretary-treasurer, Miss Helen Harris, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee. Gifts other than dues, from members of the section, or any one interested, will be welcome and may be sent to the same address.

ANNIE SPENCER CUTTER

Chairman

School Libraries section

A. L. A.

College Librarians of the Middle West

[Paper read at Midwinter meeting in Chicago sometime ago and published now for the statistics by request.]

Miss Flora B. Ludington, reference librarian, Mills College, California, gave a paper on Standards reached by the smaller college libraries of the Pacific states. Her study eliminated the larger college libraries as they had been surveyed by Willis H. Kerr. She said that not one of the smaller colleges met Mr Kerr's standard of an initial book stock of 50,000 volumes and three failed to meet the very low standard of the American Council on Education of "at least 8,000 volumes exclusive of government documents." The general average for the entire group of colleges was 47.88 books per student, while the average in 37 colleges in the Middle West in 1924, was 61. The low average is partly explained by the fact that most of the colleges in the region are of recent growth. A reasonable growth in accessions is taking place. Book budgets as follows were reported:

10 colleges of less than 500 students, \$6.66 per student.

6 colleges of 500 to 1000 students, \$6.43 per student.

4 colleges of 1000 to 2000 students, \$8.03 per student.

General average for 20 colleges was \$7.17. This more than doubled the average of \$3.35 computed by Miss Pritchett for 1924 for 37 mid-west colleges, but is less than that of Mr Lewis for New England colleges (\$9.39). The average of staff members to students was 129, which is very close to Mr Henry's 130 reported in *Library Survey*. The budget for salaries varied as follows:

10 colleges of less than 500 students, \$7.37 per student.

6 colleges of 500 to 1000 students, \$9.36 per student.

4 colleges of 1000 to 2000 students, \$13.07 per student.

Average budget for salaries was \$9.80 per student.

Then, every college that reported over 500 students reported some instruction in the use of the library. Miss Ludington feels that special attention must be given students coming into college from junior colleges. The student coming from the junior college is expected to use tools that he has never seen before and is at a disadvantage with students who have had to use them in freshman and sophomore work. She feels that the academic life of these transfer students is a difficult one and that they need special attention from the library assistants. Her survey showed that the average junior college library is not sufficiently equipped for library work. She feels that some goal should be set for junior college libraries and encouragement given them.

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News from the Field

East

Alice Rowe, Simmons '16, has been appointed librarian of the Groton school.

Elvira Bianchi, Simmons '25, has assumed the duties of librarian of the High school at Wellesley.

Marian Merrill, Simmons '23, has been promoted to the position of librarian of the Wheaton College library, Norton.

Lysla Abbott, Simmons '28, has become head of the schools department of the Public library of Portland, Maine.

Miriam N. Marsh, Simmons '27, formerly librarian of the Braintree high school, is now on the staff of the General Theological library, Boston.

Beatrice M. Lord, Simmons '26, an assistant on the staff of the Public library, Manchester, New Hampshire, was married, August 23, to Clayton F. Grant.

Dorothy Hyde, Simmons '24, has resigned her position as children's librarian of the New Bedford public library, to become librarian of the South Junior high school, Waltham.

Elizabeth F. Smith, Simmons '26, was married on August 3 to John Longton Blackledge. Mrs Blackledge will be on the staff of the Bookshop for Boys and Girls during the coming year.

A children's room in the Public library, West Haven, Connecticut, has been equipped by Marguerite H. Graham of that city, as a memorial to her father. It is modern in every detail and will provide the children with more freedom in every particular.

The annual report of the Public library, Waltham, Mass., records: Population of 34,768 served thru Main library, two branches, five stations and 121 schoolrooms; total number of volumes, 81,611; number of books lent for school and home use, 195,282; total cir-

ulation, 300,842v.; circulation per capita, 8.65; number of registered borrowers, 10,581; total receipts, \$36,999; expenditures—books, periodicals, binding, \$11,390; salaries—library service, \$18,941; janitor service, \$3,575.

William K. Stetson, since 1887, librarian of the Free public library of New Haven, Conn., has retired from that post. Mr Stetson was in library service at Russell public library and Wesleyan University, Middletown, 1881-87. He was graduated in 1881 from Wesleyan with A. B. and P. B. K., receiving his A. M. in 1884.

He is a long time member of A. L. A., being 461 on the registration list. He has served on important committees serving the A. L. A. for all his years of membership. In recent years, he has done valuable work in directing attention to library architecture, especially interior arrangement.

Lindsey Brown, librarian at Waterbury, Conn., has been elected to the post in New Haven.

Ruth Cowgill, head of the Foreign department at the Providence public library, Providence, R. I., died July 6. In the death of Miss Cowgill, the Providence public library, both from the point of view of the staff and of the public that the Foreign department serves, has suffered a very distinct loss.

She came to the Providence public library after having served five years as chief of the Foreign division in the Public library of Detroit, Michigan. Her experience previous to this had been a wide one, both in library and literary work.

Miss Cowgill was a graduate of Washburn college, Topeka, Kansas, and had attended the Harvard University summer session and the Pratt Institute school of library science, Brooklyn. She spent the summer of 1923 at the Sorbonne. She could speak, read and write French easily, besides having a reading

knowledge of German, Italian and Spanish. And, along with her excellent preparation and ability, she carried a sincere enthusiasm for her work.

Central Atlantic

Cornelia Cochrane, Simmons '26, has joined the staff of the Children's Bookshop, New York City.

Phyllis Raymond, Simmons '27, has become supervisor of school libraries, Union City, New Jersey.

Marjorie Rogers, Simmons '24, has become librarian of Cedar Crest College, Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Helen Russell, Simmons '16, has accepted the position of librarian of State Teachers College, West Chester, Pennsylvania.

Helen C. Smith, Simmons '24, formerly on the staff of the New York public library, was married to H. Lloyd Christensen of Lee, last Spring.

Jane Conrad, Simmons '07, for many years librarian of the DeKalb branch of the Public library, Brooklyn, New York, has accepted the position of librarian of the Senior high school at New Rochelle, New York.

Dorothy N. Kirk has taken the position of assistant librarian of the American University library, Washington, D. C. Miss Kirk is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and the University of Illinois library school.

Thelma Van Ness, for several years connected with the libraries in Bloomington and vicinity, has joined the staff of the Queensborough public library, New York, N. Y. Miss Van Ness was graduated from the University of Illinois with the degree of A. B. in 1928, and received her library degree in June, 1929.

Mr C. W. Foss, reference librarian of the Brooklyn public library since January, 1908, has resigned to become librarian of the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, effective October 1, 1929.

Edward F. Rowse, associate professor at the University of Syracuse, has been appointed as successor to Mr Foss.

The report of the Osterhout free library of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., records the following: Circulation, 398,459v., a circulation of 3.5 per capita and an increase of 55,183 over 1927; number of volumes on shelves, 75,422; reference room attendance, 15,642; subjects looked up, 2,851. All the branch libraries showed an increase in use and circulation.

Miss Beatrice Winsor, for 29 years assistant-librarian of the Public library of Newark, N. J., has been appointed librarian as successor to the late John Cotton Dana with whom she served during his administration. Miss Winsor has been connected with the Newark library since 1899, was for some time a member of the Board of Education and coöperated in all the work Mr Dana did for the school and other public interests of the city.

Miss Winsor has, also, been named Acting director of the Newark Museum, of which she was assistant director and assistant secretary under Mr Dana.

Central

Eva Swain has been chosen librarian for the Public library, Carthage, Illinois.

Virginia Snavelly, Simmons '28, has joined the staff of the Oberlin College library, Ohio.

Mary Bostwick Day, librarian of the National Safety Council for the past 10 years, has resigned and is at her home, 1962 East 71st Place, Chicago.

Natalie Johnston has resigned as librarian of the Public library, Elwood, Indiana. Lucile G. Snow, Columbia, '27, of Flint, Michigan, has been appointed her successor.

Lucile F. Fargo who has been busy at Headquarters this summer completing revision of the Curriculum Study text on the school library, will make Cleveland her headquarters during the fall.

Natalie T. Huhn, Wis., temporarily with the Board of Education for librarianship, American Library Association, became the librarian of the Public library, Oshkosh, Wis., September 1.

Elizabeth Barker has been made extension librarian at Lincoln library, Springfield, Illinois, succeeding Margaret Corcoran who resigns to become librarian of the Springfield Junior college.

Miss S. Louise Mitchell, librarian of the Art Institute of Chicago, 1914-1929, has retired and will occupy herself hereafter with the things which her busy life has denied her heretofore.

Maybelle Reid, W. R. '28, has been appointed Elementary School librarian for the Lakewood public schools and the Lakewood public library, and will devote her entire time to matters relating to elementary school contacts.

The Chicago public library is planning two more regional branches. The next and the second regional branch will be called the Frederick H. Hild branch, in honor of Mr Hild who was a former librarian.

Another branch soon to be erected will be called the Stephen A. Douglas branch.

The public library established in Lockport, Illinois, several years ago by the Woman's club which has since successfully carried on the institution, has been formally turned over to a recently elected library board for the township. A rate of nine-tenths mills on the assessed valuation in Lockport township was voted for the maintenance of the library.

Miss Etheldred Abbott (Vassar, A.B.) (N. Y. S. L., B.L.S.), has been elected librarian of the Art Institute of Chicago to succeed Miss S. L. Mitchell.

Miss Abbott was connected previously with the Art departments of Wellesley

College, Princeton University and University of Cincinnati. Since 1926, she has been reference librarian of the Public library of Cincinnati.

Amanda M. Flattery, A. M., for 15 years cataloger in the University of Illinois, was given the status and allowance of a retired member of the staff, beginning September 1. Miss Flattery's work in the classifying and cataloging of books and other material relating to the Greek and Latin languages and literatures, has always been highly commended both by the faculty and by the staff.

Bernice Mitchell, Burwell, Nebraska, has been appointed librarian at Forest Park, Illinois, to succeed Catherine Chouffet. The latter will take graduate work towards a master's degree at the University of Wisconsin. She succeeded Florence Barry, who after several years' service in the Forest Park library, resigned last year to take her degree from the Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The annual report of the Public library, East Cleveland, Ohio, records a circulation of 384,793 books and 6241 pictures to an active registration of 16,687, or 36.67 per cent of the population. The book collection enlarged by 6643 makes the total number of volumes, 67,219, together with 200 periodicals and newspapers.

Interesting exhibits, largely the work of the children of East Cleveland, were displayed during the year in the Children's rooms.

The annual report of the Public library, Owatonna, Minn., records a circulation of 77,000, among 69 per cent of the residents. The country circulation greatly increased.

The accompanying comments on the books in the library service, in general, are of interest to everyone interested in libraries. The pamphlet collection of

the library is of unusual interest and has a circulation of 2,307. Schools, clubs, readers in general, used this material with great satisfaction.

The Carnegie Free library, Alliance, Ohio, celebrated its 25 years of service, September 6, 1929. The circulation of the first year was 40,126 v. among 3,150 patrons, from a collection of 4,638 books, in a population of 12,000. In 1928, the library circulated 120,720 items among 7,583 borrowers from a collection of 24,243 volumes.

Louise Russell, who was the first librarian in the new building, is now Mrs W. B. Ailes, a member of the board of trustees. Howard B. Sohn has been librarian since 1924.

The recent report of the Public library, Kalamazoo, Michigan, records: Circulation, 481,240v.; registration, 25,730, of a population of 57,000; books on shelves, 94,213, of which 9,238 are new. In addition there were circulated 209,637 photographs and clipped pictures, 29,030 lantern slides, 1,503 collections of objects, a total of 723,606 units. Twenty-nine per cent of the registration was juvenile, and the juvenile circulation was 39 per cent of the total.

Maintenance, \$75,773, of which 60 per cent was salaries, 21 per cent books, 19 per cent for general expenses. This was an expenditure of \$1.33 per capita.

A new special branch of the Public library, South Bend, Indiana, was opened in the summer to render library service on business and industrial subjects to the public of that city.

The business branch adjoins the Main library and includes four reading rooms. The books are on open shelves around the rooms and all service will be rendered directly from that department. The branch opened with something over 1,600 books, 90 magazines and 41 trade journals.

Miss Mary Welborn, with several years' experience in the Business branch

of the Indianapolis public library, is in charge with Mrs Gladys Driver as assistant.

South

Ella May Thornton, Atlanta, '09, has been reappointed state librarian of Georgia for a term of four years, beginning January, 1930.

The yearly report of the Flagler Memorial library, Miami, Florida, shows a circulation of 220,859v. with a daily average of 717.07. The total adult and juvenile membership is 21,434 and 5,111 new memberships were added during the year. Number of books in library, 28,796; new books added, 6,020; books discarded, 1,007. There were 49,474 people, in addition to those borrowing books, seeking information in the library.

Mrs Anne Wallace Howland, librarian and director of the Library school, Drexel Institute, Philadelphia, received the honorary degree of D.Sc. in L.S. in June from the University of Georgia. Mrs Howland is a native of Georgia, born in Athens, the seat of the University, where many of her family are buried. The degree was conferred in appreciation of her early work for public libraries in Georgia and as a token of pride in her public career.

The annual report of the Public library, Tampa, Florida, shows a decrease in circulation of seven per cent and curtailment of service. This is the normal result of the drastic cut in the library appropriation from \$60,160 to \$43,000.

Population served, 115,000 (92,000 white; 23,000 colored); total volumes in the library, 56,592; number of registered borrowers, 24,984; books lent, 417,329v.; total receipts, \$45,487; disbursements—salaries, \$24,917; books, periodicals, binding, \$14,562; building maintenance, \$1,052.

The beautiful and interesting mural paintings prepared by the artist, Ezra Winter, have been placed in the Circula-

tion department of the Public library, Birmingham, Alabama. There are 16 figures in the series representing distinctive characters in the literature of the world. Subdued colors are used and the artist has succeeded in balancing perfectly, material representing diverse themes both in the sense of design and of color. The outstanding feature of the work is that simplicity which is the acme of artistic perfection.

The annual report of the Public library, Birmingham, Alabama, shows that 1,070,401 books were circulated from the city library system during the 12 months period, and 135,471 from the Jefferson County department, making a total of 1,205,872 books borrowed during the year.

The library will celebrate its twentieth anniversary on October 1, 1929. The system consists of the Central library, 10 branch libraries and the county department.

Miss Dorothy Randall, Wis. '27, and for two years a member of the faculty of the Wisconsin school, has joined the staff of the library as first assistant in the catalog department.

Miss Lois Shortess, who has been school library supervisor in the Extension division of the Michigan state library for the past three years, resigned her position, August 1, to accept a similar one in Louisiana.

In Louisiana, Miss Shortess will carry on a work made possible by the General Education Board, a Rockefeller philanthropy, by a grant for a five year demonstration in state-wide school library work.

Before Miss Shortess became affiliated with the Michigan state library, she was librarian at the Southwestern Louisiana Institute, a college located at Lafayette, La.

Isabel G. Horne who has been library organizer in the Michigan state library,

has become school library supervisor in Michigan to succeed Miss Shortess.

West

Hazel Hutchins, Simmons '20, has been appointed supervisor of school libraries in Denver, Colorado.

Josephine M. Haley, Wis. '11, has resigned as librarian of the Public library, Helena, Montana, as she expects to make Chicago her home.

Mrs Mabel T. Miller of the staff of the Helena public library was appointed acting-librarian.

The annual report of the Carnegie library, Ponca City, Oklahoma, records the largest circulation in its history, 121,097 books, 36,947 stereopticon views and 1,333 mounted pictures. The library has 16,659 v.; 5400 registered borrowers; with expenditures of \$12,382, or 85½ cents per capita. Gertrude Kosmoski Sterba is librarian of a staff of five.

Anne Clark Jillson, N. Y. S., '23-'24, died in Wesley Memorial hospital, Chicago, Ill., September 29, 1928, following an operation. Mrs Jillson was studying at the University of Michigan for a Ph.D. degree in English literature, having received her M.A. degree there in 1927. She had been for several years assistant librarian at Baker University in Baldwin, Kansas, and was on leave of absence to do graduate work.

The Public library at Abilene, Kansas, has instituted a Memory shelf, to which choice books, or money for their purchase, is to be contributed by the community in memory of deceased friends. The books will be plated and acknowledgment of the gift sent to the family.

Already a considerable amount of money has been presented and memorial books are being placed on the shelves.

Several changes in library circles in North Dakota are noted: Mary Maynard, B.A., is reference librarian for the State library commission; Martha Biggs

of Mandan will attend Wisconsin library school and S. Metella Williams and Ethel McGruer will attend Illinois library school this year; Lola Carpenter has joined the staff of Dickinson Normal School library; Ruth Johnson succeeds Estella Graff on the Fargo staff, the latter going to Buhl, Minn., as high school librarian.

Pacific Coast

Gladys Doolittle, Simmons '24, has been appointed senior reference assistant at the University of California library, Berkeley.

Helen R. Montague resigned from the Library association of Portland to become librarian of the Public library, Marshfield, Oregon, September 1.

The report of the public libraries in the territory of Hawaii, for 1927-28, gives the following:

The library of Hawaii, Honolulu, has 93,516 v.; circulation, 1,317,052 v. thru main library and 122 agencies; 36 adult stations and 86 children's collections outside of the main library, sent out 91,706 books with a circulation of 548,797. There was an average of over 100,000 people using the reference room each year.

An extension to the building, two wings with a reading court between, will contain a fine, large children's room with classrooms adjoining, a small auditorium, rooms for the Hawaiian historical society and administrative rooms for the library. A small reading room will be devoted to Hawaiiana.

The report of the Public library at Lihue, Kauai, shows an increase in circulation of the different agencies. Books on the shelves, 17,348; circulation for home use in the main library, 57,040; thru the agencies, 100,584. There are 17 schools on the island, serving 6,500 children. This library has a specially fine collection of books for teachers.

The dedication of the Felipe de Neve branch of the Public library, Los Angeles, marked the one hundred forty-eighth anniversary of the founding of the city. The event was made a special occasion. The president of the Board of library commissioners, Mr Orra E. Monnette, presented the library to the city. An address on Felipe de Neve was made by Arthur M. Ellis. Mrs W. W. Stilson spoke for the D. A. R. Judge Russ Avery of the Los Angeles historical society presented "California's beginnings." The dedication of the branch was one of the notable events of the city's celebration.

Canada

Louise Mason has been appointed librarian of a beautiful new library opened in the Royal York hotel, Toronto.

John Ridington, librarian of the University of British Columbia, was married to Muriel Patience Fallows in Vancouver, B. C., August 8.

Nora Bateson, M.A. (Manchester), formerly of the Legislative library of Ontario, has been made reference librarian, University of British Columbia at Point Grey, B. C.

Marie Tremaine, B.A., member of the Reference division of the Public library, Toronto, has gone to London University for graduate work in Library Science on her scholarship grant.

Capt E. C. Kyte, librarian of Queen's College, Kingston, has inaugurated a series of talks to groups of freshmen at the University on the treasures of the library and the lure of books.

The public libraries of Ontario have absorbed 26 members of the class of '29 of the Library school, University of Toronto. Of these, 15 go to libraries in Toronto, six go to Hamilton libraries and two go to United States libraries.

Mr W. O. Carson, inspector of public libraries for Ontario, Canada, is seriously

ill and will not be able to resume his duties for many months. Mr Carson has been an important member in the work of the A. L. A. for a number of years and his many friends will wish him a speedy return to good health.

Mr C. R. Sanderson, B.S. (London), librarian of the National liberal club, London, England, has joined the staff of the Public library of Toronto as assistant librarian. Mr Sanderson was formerly connected with the Rylands library in Manchester and was for five years in the combatant service of the Great War.

Foreign

An attractive exhibit at the Geneva meetings of the World Federation of education associations, in Geneva, last summer, was that of the World Peace Foundation of Boston.

The exhibit showed the increase in American interest in international co-operation thru graphic illustrations, of the demand by universities and public libraries for official publications of such bodies as the League of Nations, the World Court, the International Labor Organization, the Institute of Intellectual Coöperation, the International Hydrographic Bureau and the International Institute of Air Navigation. It included not only the usual maps and wall charts, but many examples of international publications.

The retirement of Mr John Ballinger, M. A., from the librarianship of the National library of Wales at the end of the year, is announced. Mr Ballinger has been a leading power in library development in Great Britain for many years. As librarian of the Public library of Cardiff, Wales, he lead in many of the library extensions that became especially active in the end of the last century. He was chosen as the outstanding librarian of Wales when the National library in that country was established and to him

was given the task of developing an institution of high merit. This, Mr Ballinger has done to a remarkable degree.

For 21 years, he has been a leader, establishing summer library schools, training classes, developing book lists and library improvements that won the highest regard for his scholarship and for his courteous simplicity among his colleagues.

His successor has not yet been appointed. The post is one of the most desirable in position and remuneration.

Mr Arthur H. Furnish of the Public library of York was the City's first librarian, appointed in 1893. He now has announced his retirement. Those who were fortunate enough to attend the dedication of the new library building in the summer of 1927 remember with pleasure that interesting occasion, made so by the distinguished visitors present, by whom the courtesy of the librarian, Mr Furnish, was greatly enjoyed.

Mr George T. Shaw, M. A., F. L. A., since 1929 chief librarian of the Public library, Liverpool, has also retired. Mr Shaw has been a member of the Council of the Library association since 1897 and has been a member of the Library association since 1893.

News has been received of the death of George Frederick Staley, superintendent of Branches, Manchester public libraries. Mr Staley had been in the service of the Manchester public libraries since 1892.

Wanted—Experienced Children's librarian to organize the work with children in a medium-sized library in California. Coalinga District Library, Coalinga, Calif.

For Sale—Encyclopaedia Britannica, 11th ed. 1911, 16 vols. (32 vols.—2 vols. in one) including index and addenda, for \$35. Westport Public Library, Westport, Conn.